

**Deborah Orr:** a bad case of Docu-rage PAGE 5

The secret world of bats PAGE 9

Lord of the dance: Mark Steel shakes a leg PAGE 8



# And on the next day, it was the same old story: racism, bungling, incompetence

By IAN BURRELL, ANDREW BUNCOMBE AND COLIN BROWN

THE BRAVE new dawn for British race relations was just a few hours old yesterday when an extraordinary series of blunders heralded a fresh storm of bigotry, fear and accusation.

In Eltham, south-east London, racist vandals had daubed white paint in an overnight attack on the memorial plaque for the murdered black teenager Stephen Lawrence. The affront was exacerbated by the fact that the police security camera installed to deter such attacks

was a dummy. Then it emerged that in a major error of judgement, the names and addresses of 40 informants and witnesses who gave confidential evidence to police investigating Stephen's death had been published in an appendix to Wednesday's inquiry report.

Even the Government's plans to legislate for improved racial harmony were thrown off course as it was revealed that any new race relations Bill could be delayed until after the general election.

Yesterday, police officers visited the homes of the identified informants and witnesses to offer them protection and reassurance. Hundreds of copies of the Lawrence report have been circulated to representatives of the five suspects, the media, police, race groups and

members of the public. The publication of the informants' identities will come as a great embarrassment to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. who received the inquiry report nine days ahead of its publication. At least 10 advance copies were presented to Home Office officials, who failed to spot the mistake. Speaking near the vandalised memorial yester-



Some of the witness details given in the appendices

■ Parents seek compensation Black press welcomes reports

therefore it would be wholly rrong for myself, in the Home Office, to go through this report, checking. The error was drawn to my attention this morning."

Sir William Macpherson of Cluny's inquiry team yesterday accepted the blame for the error. "It's a mistake and it's our responsibility. We very much regret what happened," said a spokeswoman.

Some of the named informants, many of whom live in neighbouring streets to the murder suspects, were clearly worried about possible consequences. One woman said: "I'm appalled. I thought this information was going to be given to the police in confidence.

A mother, also named, said: "If people think their names are going to be made public and put in the papers, there is no way they will help the police again." Jenny Watson, of the Victim Support counselling group, said: "I would have thought

day, Mr Straw said: "It's an in- this case is horrifying. Given dependent judicial inquiry and that they are still trying to bring a case to court for this murder, to then list the names and addresses of people who have come forward hardly gives people the confidence to offer information. It is incompre-

hensible how this happened." In a neighbourhood where regidents have snoken of a climate of fear, other identified informants were anxious to play down the amount of belp they had given. "I didn't give the police anything specific," said one woman. The report identified her as having named the Acourt brothers.

Another woman said: "It's disgusting. It makes it sound as if I phoned up the police."

Over five pages, the inquiry team reproduced a calendar of evidence received by the police in the first 15 days of the murder inquiry. The calendar, which was compiled by Kent police during their review of the Metropolitan Police murder investigation, gives the names the potential for intimidation in and addresses of informants,

with the information they gave. It also identifies private homes that were used for police surveillance of the suspects.

The comments of a neighbour of one of the prime suspects are published. Several other possible suspects are publicly named, some on the rord of anonymous informants.

Opposition MPs used the blunder to undermine the credibility of the entire inquiry. The Tory MP David Maclean, a former Home Office minister, said: "Its incompetence over these appendices must cast some doubt on their competence to make other judgements."

Clive Efford, the Labour MP for Eltham, described the in-clasion of informants' names as

a "catastrophic error". Chief Superintendent David Clapperton of Kent police, who compiled the document, said he was "horrified" the details had been published and complained his force had not been given an advance copy.

The Home Office tried to limit the damage by preventing any further circulation of the appendices and withdrawing them from a government website.

On his visit to the desecrated memorial in Elfham, Mr Straw was joined by Stephen's parents, Doreen and Neville. A member of the Lawrence party said: "They are both pleased that they took his body back to Jamaica. God knows what these racists would have done to his grave."

The independent has also learnt that the race relations legislation promised by the Home Secretary in his statement on Wednesday might not be fully implemented until after the general election. Any such delay will prompt fears that the Lawrence report could go the way of the Scarman inquiry, promising much, but failing to deliver fundamental change.





# Brown retreats on taxing child benefit

plans to tax the child benefit payments of higher-rate taxpayers in his Budget in 11 days'

Gordon Brown had been widely expected to introduce the measure this year after floating it in last year's Budget, but Treasury officials have warned him that there are severe difficulties. He would also face a backlash from women because, to raise a significant amount of money he would have to tax the joint income of men and women, breaching the principle of independent taxation introduced in 1990.

THE CHANCELLOR is to shelve BY ANDREW GRICE AND DIANE COYLE

> Child benefit, currently £11.45 a week for the first child and £9.30 for each subsequent child, costs the Exchequer 27bn a year and is paid in 95 per cent of cases to the mother. While it would be easy to tax the child benefit received by top-rate taxpayers, this would raise only £70m a year because there are only 100,000 of them. The revenue would fund an increase in child benefit of just 10p a week.

The Treasury could raise

ther is a top-rate taxpayer. About a million people would payments, enough to finance a 70p-a-week rise in child benefit.

However, taxing the child benefit paid to mothers who have little or no income of their own but have a high-earning partner would be difficult and costly to administer. The Inland Revenue would

need to ask all higher-rate male taxpayers to declare whether their wife or partner received child benefit. Many people would find the requirement to \$450m by imposing the tax provide details of their per- case for taxing child benefit where either the mother or fa- sonal lives highly intrusive.

Mr Brown believes it is unfair to assess well-off couples independently for tax but lowincome partners jointly for benefits such as income support. But Treasury officials have argued that the practical obstacles to treating child benefit as part of "joint income" are currently insurmountable. Another anomaly is that a couple where both earned £30,000 – just below the top-rate threshold – would not be taxed on their child benefit, while a family with one

The Chancellor believes the would be enhanced if he con-

£35,000 earner would.

INSIDE THE REVIEW

tinues to increase it sharply. He has already announced that it will rise by £2.50 a week for the first child in April and a further inflation-plus increase is expected in the 9 March Budget.

Mr Brown may seek to overcome the technical problems by combining taxation of child benefit with a wider shake-up of taxes on the family. The Budget is expected to announce the phasing out of the married couple's tax allowance, currently worth £285 a year, which will fall to £190 in April.

The Chancellor's long-term plan to tax child benefit faces another setback when the allparty Commons Social Security Committee rushes out a report before the Budget raising doubts about the proposal. When the committee ques

tioned Treasury and Inland Revenue officials on Wednesday, some members expressed concern that the proposal would deter cohabiting couples with children from declaring their relationships. And the Institute for Fiscal Studies warned: "The only means by which such a reform could be enforced is by the Inland Revenue involving itself in the monitoring of cohabitation, in much the same way as the Benefits Agency."

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#### INSIDE THIS SECTION

The Queen orders the removal of an advert for a royal job 'without pay' Home P5

Warning off Blair Rail operators are told to improve their service Home P6

rescuers to men trapped in an igloo for 10 days Foreign P14 Murder of cleric

A mobile phone leads

Baghdad behind the killing of holy man' Foreign P18

grind to a halt despite signs of improvement Business p20 Soaring salaries

**CBI** warning

Growth looks likely to

Alex Ferguson's worries over football pay rises

delvyn Bragg There's more to arts than funding, Sir Peter

Philip Hensher

youth of today? Not

decadent enough

Comment P4

The Big, Holy Bloke What's wrong with the God has no future if we continue to see Him as the guy in charge Features P8

Gold to dross Why do good books make terrible films?



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# Memorial is defaced by white paint

IN TRUTH it was probably less BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE than a cup full of white household emulsion that had been thrown on to the south London pavement. Its significance, owever, was much greater.

That someone should chose to deface the pavement memorial to Stephen Lawrence within hours of the publication of the public inquiry report was sickening enough. What made it worse was that no one was really that surprised.

Racism quite literally hit the streets of Eltham once again sometime between 6.20pm on Wednesday and 8.58am yesterday when a man flagged down a police officer on routine patrol.

cludes the words "In memory of Stephen Lawrence... may he art Hollingdale, from Penge, rest in peace" – was illegible through the spattered paint.

Within moments a major police operation was underway. An area of pavement along Well Hall Road was sealed off. Forensic experts were taking samples of the paint and more than 20 officers were involved in house-to-house inquiries.

It was an incredible response to a crime that will be catalogued as criminal damage and for which the perpetrator, should he or she ever be caught, will face no more than three months in jail.

But of course, this was not just any attack of random van- of thing happening again." dalism on just any memorial. Rather, within hours, it was clear the police realised that they had to make a very public racist motivation are taken sewould probably not be this formed of this two officers ran

many officers involved to investigate something like this," admitted a police spokeswoman. Pushed further she replied that normally such incidents would have been attended by just one officer.

Cynics were having a field day. Was this merely a knee-jerk response to the criticisms of the police contained within Sir William Macpherson of Cluny's report? Or was it because the police realised they had even failed to protect the memorial marking the spot where Stephen died in 1993?

This was after all, the third The inscription - which in- time the plaque had been vandalised. The last offender, Stuwas jailed for three months last March after he was caught on a specially installed CCTV camera attacking the marble plaque with a hammer.

Had the most recent offender been caught on film? "The camera was left there for three months," explained Det Chief Superintendent Mike Parkes of the Racial and Violent Crime Task Force, who arrived at the scene. "After that a decision was taken to take this camera out and deploy it elsewhere. What has been left is a complete dummy. It was placed here to try and prevent this sort

The minutes passed and the officers continued their inquiries, failing to spot that the bus stop a few hundred yards away where Stephen had been stabbed, had also been atriously. "No, normally there tacked with paint. When into seal it off with police tape.

The empty dog food tin which had contained the white paint thrown on the memorial was still at the scene. More police arrived,

amongst them Assistant Commissioner Denis O'Connor third in command of the Met. He refused to answer questions. "He has just come to pay his respects," said a spokes-

By this stage the rumour was that the Home Secretary Jack Straw and Stephen's parents, Doreen and Neville, were to visit the scene. Shortly after 4pm they arrived together Mr Straw stuck a finger in the still wet paint.

Mr and Mrs Law-rence looked on. Both looked exhausted and appalled.

Mr Straw said he was disgusted the attack should happen on any day but particularly on this day. "It's proof of the fact that we have to drive out racism from the minds of people in this country," he said. "You must never despair and one of the wonderful things about the Lawrence family is that they have never despaired. You have to make some good come from evil"

As evening fell officers continued their inquiries in the streets close to the memorial. including the road just a few hundred yards away where some of the five Lawrence murder suspects were sitting to-

Their message was clear: "We might not have caught the killers, but there's no way we're not gonna catch whoever threw



Jack Straw and Doreen Lawrence at the paint-splattered memorial to her murdered son

### The difference a day makes to policing

SO, BUSINESS as usual then... On Wednesday, some of the sity Black officers from the Metropolitan Police were guarding the Home Office, New Scotland Yard and the Downing Street as Home Secretary Jack

LIGHTING UP

8.21 9.01 2.16 9.50 8.54 7.51 3.25 3.27

BY GARY FINN

nation's key institutions were a Straw delivered the results model picture of racial diver- of the Stephen Lawrence

Only a cynic would suggest that it was an orchestrated attempt to ensure that the heavily criticised Metropolitan

Police stayed on message. But as these pictures by an Independent photographer show, it only took 24 hours for the status quo to resume.

Our pictures were taken between 4pm and 5pm on Wednesday and at the same time yesterday.



**Outside Scotland Yard vesterday** 

### Family want Met to pay out

By KATE WATSON-SMYTH

STEPHEN LAWRENCE'S family will sue the Metropolitan Police unless they receive adequate compensation, their solicitor said yesterday.

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<u> المنتسمة ...</u>

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Imran Khan will ask the Commissioner, Sir Paul Condon, to pay compensation foilowing publication of the report into the murder investigation.

But civil rights lawyers warned that the family could face another long battle. Geoffrey Bindman, of Bindman and Partners, said the police may refuse to settle out of court in case a precedent is set that could encourage a flood of claims. The case may have to go all the way to the European Court of Human Rights because of the need, under English law, to prove that the police had a duty of care to Stephen.

Mr Bindman said the police may try to settle, adding: "It is a special case, but there are others. I am sure the police would be thinking of the prosecutors of other cases opening the floodgates to similar claims.

"For that very reason, they might prefer to have the courts decide. In that case it could be a long haul for the parents."

Anthony Scrivener QC said the Lawrences could have a hard time with a case of negligence because police do not have a duty of care, but there could be ways round that.

"If you could show the police deliberately did not do something then you could plead a breach of statutory duty. So if you could show that they failed to carry out their duty because because of race that would... be the way round it," he said

Mr Khan said on BBC radio yesterday: "I will be writing to the Commissioner asking him to give compensation to the family for the way in which they have been treated during the course of this incompetent and grossly negligent murder investigation. If they do not respond satisfactorily I am prepared to give them seven days and after that we will then take the matter to court."

Louise Christian, of Christian Fisher and Co, said: "If you have not identified yourself as a potential victim in advance. say, by going to the police and telling them you need protection, then they do not owe you a duty of care so they are not being negligent."

In a recent case the European Court decided police had a duty to carry out a proper investigation into an allegation of illegality. The Lawrences may have to take the fight to Europe.

# **Outside Scotland Yard on Wednesday** Noon today

FORECAST

General situation: Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cold and windy with sumy spells and showers, the showers becaming heavy and prolonged and turning to sket and show over the mountains. Northern parts of England and Wales will have surshine at times out also showers, these largely in the west. Central and scotlern England, together with South Wales will scart off cloudy and damp but mild. The rain will become confined to the south-east this afternoon as brighter.

London, SE England, Channel list Mild but cloudy with light rom. It will slowly brighten from the north. A moderate south-westerry wind, Max 9-11C (48-52F). S Wales, SW & Cent S England, E Anglia, E England, Midlands: Starting (but) and damp then slowly brightening up. A moderate south-westerly wind Max temp 9-10C (48-52F)

NW & SW Scotland, Glasgow, W & N Isles: Cold and windy with bright spells and increasingly heavy showers, the showers wintry over the mountains. A fresh to strong south-westerly wind. Mais temp 4-7C (39-45F). N Ireland: Rather windy and cold with heavy showers. A fresh to strong south-westerly wind. Max temp 6-9C (43-48F).

The south-east may see rain for a time tomorrow but it will stay mild. The rest of the country will be colder with sunny spells and showers. Rain will spread across most parts on Sunday. It will be milder again but rather windy

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout. Leytonstone. Major readworks on new M11 link read. Until 31st December. Combridgeshire A10 between Foxton and and contration. Until 23rd April. Greater Manchester: A57. Namew lancs Manchester-bound, due to Metolinik con-

South Yorkshire: M1 Between J34 Tinsley Visatuct (A8109) & J34 Tinsley Visatuct (A6178). Sheffield. Camingeway reduced to 2 lanes southbound. Until 21:x November 2000. Gloucestershire: A40 Lansdown Rd, Cheltenham. Closed due to roadworks inbound. Diversions in place Unit 1st Juno. Suffolie A14 Foliastown Docks. Research unit 28th Foliastown Docks. Research

latest local and national traffic r

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8.33 8.1 3.25 5.7 2.23 5.6 3.37 1.4 8.52 4.1 5.30 3.6 1 12 4.9 8 45 3.1

WEATHERLINE For the latest forecasts dial 0891 5005 fellowed by the two digits for your area. Source: The Met. Office, Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT) YESTERDAY

Coldest (day): Shoreh: Wettest: Lusa 0.10 ins For 24hrs to 2pm Thursday

41 46 43 46 50 50

RAIN OR SHINE...

MELITING snows have flooded huge tracts of Romania, severely disrupting rail and road links and forcing evacuation of 600 homes. Worse disaster is predicted, with 50,000 acres already under water in the east of the country. The towns of Cavnic and Borsa face flash floods. In Hungary, a flood warning was issued along 238 km (150 miles) of the Crasna river, which flows from Romania into eastern Hungary.



THE WORLD YESTERDAY

# **Black press** gives report its backing

BY PAUL MCCANN Media Editor

BRITAIN'S BLACK newspapers today give a qualified welcome to the Stephen Lawrence in-

quiry report.

The Journal, the weekly based in south London, had an exclusive with the Prime Minister in which he urged the black community to get involved in politics to help stamp out racism. The Journal interview reflects Downing Street's stated aim of bypassing the national newspapers and getting its message across through specialist and local titles.

Brixton-based The Voice, which featured Neville and Doreen Lawrence on their front four days after Stephen's murder in 1993, has an interview with Sir Paul Condon. He warns the paper against taking an anti-police stance. The Voice is the biggest black newspaper, with a circulation of 45,000.

"We welcome the report and what it stands for," said Matthew Griffiths, the news editor. "It does prove that someone up there is listening to us. But we'd like to see it go a little deeper. Still no one has lost their job over it. And still no one has ended up behind bars."

The Journal sees the Lawrence report as a watershed in British race relations. It says the police force has been able to claim there are just a few "bad apples" in its ranks who are racist, since the Scar-



The front page of today's "The Journal"

man inquiry into the Brixton riots came to that conclusion. The Macpherson report, says The Journal, discredits that notion and makes "shat-

tering" reading for Sir Paul: Tony Blair and William Hague tell The Voice they want more black people to join political parties. "I accept that black people have been disappointed and disillusioned with the nolitical process," says Mr Blair."

"But change is happening." William Hague admits: "The Conservative Party has not done enough to win the support and commitment of many of Britain's ethnic minority groups. I do not expect people to turn to my party overnight. but we are adopting a more vigorous approach to recruitment from the ethnic minorities."

# Institutionally racist? So just how guilty is the employer you work for?

HOW RACIST are Britain's em- By Paul Lashman, ployers? In his Lawrence in- LINUS GREGORIADIS quiry report, Sir William Macpherson said the Metropolitan Police suffered "institutional racism".

The Independent yesterday asked some of Britain's biggest institutions if they suffered

from the same problem.
The Ministry of Defence ad-England confessed frankly: "We have recognised for a long time there is some degree of institutional racism. We are working on it." But most workplaces

AND ANDREW MULLINS

were adamant that they are not tainted by institutional racism. Questioned in an Independent survey, they said they believed that they were on the right track - but the statistics revealed many have a long way mitted it, and the Church of to go before their workforces re-

flect society as a whole. (We at The Independent, in common with manymedia organisations, are not immune from criticism.)

The organisations we talked to also had to admit that most of their ethnic workers were in low to middle-ranking jobs.

The benchmark figure is the 1991 census figure of 5.5 per cent of the population being of "ethnic minority" background. The Metropolitan Police, lambasted by the Lawrence inquiry report, has less than 4 per cent from ethnic minorities yet London has a higher proportion of people from the minorities.

Railtrack has around 4 per cent of its 700 employees from ethnic minorities.

Lloyds/TSB has 1,940 ethnic minority staff or 3.1 per cent. Of these, there are 23 ethnic minority senior managers, representing 0.9 per cent of senior management positions.

We asked 30 of Britain's most prestigious organisations if they had institutional racism, as described by Sir William. We also asked if they were reconsidering their policies in light of the report. Finally, we asked for the number of people from ethnic minorities in their organisation and how many occupied senior positions.

culpa it has done quite well. House identify themselves as rassment policy. We will not from ethnic minorities. And accept unfair treatment of inblack and Asian people are well represented in the clergy. The Bishop of Stepney was actually on the inquiry team.

Virgin, Railtrack and BT all gave a categorical "no" to the institutional racism question. All the major organisations we spoke to have long-standing equal opportunity policies.

The response from the head of employee relations at Rail-

Despite the Church's mea track Paul Radley, was typical: there are not parts of it which formed staff. Of the 1,100 non-Twenty of its 180 staff at Church ties policy and we have a hadividuals whether it be because of race, sex, age or religion."

> Some companies' responses were more sophisticated than a simple "no" and had picked up on Macpherson's phrase of "unwitting racism". Michael Honey chief executive of the London Ambulance Service, said: "It is impossible for any large organisation to give a categorical assurance that it has 4 per cent of the 5,900 uni-

"We have an equal opportuni- are unwittingly prejudiced. We are concerned with making office staff and 22 per cent of sure we are not prejudiced."

> result of the report. Others do say they intend to read it. One of the most ambitious recruitment campaigns from the ethnic minorities is run by the London Fire Brigade. The

> director of personnel and training, Ian Bone, said the brigade's target is 10 per cent from ethnic minorities. So far

craft and manual staff are from

Only a few organisations are going to review their policies as Mr Bone said t Mr Bone said the close association of the brigade and the police had led to recruitment problems and like several companies, the brigade has had difficulties attracting graduates from the ethnic minorities.

It has recently launched an initiative to bring in graduates. "The response was a raspberry. We did not attract one recruit," Mr Bone said.

"ANY CORPORATION could be guilty of thoughtlessness. But as a co-operative society part of our constitution is everyone being able to use our services without racial or any kind of discrimination," said a spokesman. The society has ethnic minority staff who are superstore managers. Two per cent of all staff are from ethnic minorities, with 10 per cent in the South-east.

RAILTRACK

RAILTRACK

WORKS WITH Commission for Racial

Equality to increase proportion of non-

white employees. Four per cent of its

workforce are from ethnic minorities.

"We have an equal opportunities policy

and we have a harassment policy," said

relations. "We will not accept unfair

treatment of individuals whether it be

because of race, sex, age or religion."

Paul Radley, head of employee



"WE MAKE it absolutely plain from the outset of people's careers that no form of harassment is tolerated, no matter what form it takes." The company runs training sessions, built around equal opportunities awareness, designed to ensure employees understand the issues and are sensitive to them. An annual report monitors the scheme. In the UK, 3 per cent of Unilever's workforce is from ethnic minorities.

LONDON AMBULANCE

A BOARD meeting will discuss the

wants to boost the proportion of

Lawrence report. Michael Honey, chief,

executive, says the service is working

non-white employees from 7 per cent

to 20 per cent by 2005. Members of

staff from ethnic minorities include a

board member and two operational

to combat unwitting discrimination. He

#### BAR COUNCIL



THE EQUALITY Code for the Bar that governs race policy was agreed in 1996. "It is regarded as a first-class model," said a spokesman, It is part of the Bar's code of conduct, breaching it would be a disciplinary offence and would be subject to normal disciplinary procedures, up to disbarment. The Bar Council has several members from the ethnic minorities and 8.5 per cent of barristers are from ethnic minorities.

#### DIXONS



LESLEY SMITH, director of corporate affairs, says the company is constantly reviewing its equal opportunity policies and has training structures to prevent racial prejudice. She added: "You can never be 100 per cent certain that problems will not occur. But you must ensure every precaution is taken and. if mistakes are made, they are quickly learnt from and not repeated."

#### The Law Society



"WE NEED to learn the lessons of the Lawrence report; it is ... the unwitting fracism1 which is really important. We have no right to be complacent ... I am the first ethnic minority to be an office-holder," said Kamlesh Bahl, chair of the executive commission. Nine per cent of Law Society staff, 4.9 per cent of practising solicitors and 15.8 per cent of those entering the profession

ARMED FORCES

THE MINISTRY of Defence admits to

"discrimination through unwitting prej-

swer to the accusation of such racism

or in the future'." One per cent of em-

ployees in the armed services are from

The aim is to increase the figure to

5 per cent by 2002.



"WE REGARD all our employees as members of a team where everyone's opinion is valued and everyone is regarded as equal in status and must always be treated with respect." said a company spokesman. At managerial level and above, 13.8 per cent of employees are black or Asian. Of the hourly-paid staff, 22 per cent are from ethnic minorities; but there is no representation at board level.



VIRGIN SAYS people from the ethnic minorities are employed in senior management and on the boards of its various businesses. It is convinced it doesn't suffer from institutional racism as defined in the Lawrence report. "We are full equal opportunities employers in all our businesses... I think we have a reputation for having a pretty good relationship with employees generally," said Will Whitehorn, Virgin director.



ITS PROPORTION of non-white employees is above the national average, it says. Aims for staff to reflect the makeudice". A spokesman said: "The only anup of surrounding communities. "We have a very clear policy of equal oppormust be 'Yes - in the past, but not now tunity, which embraces ethnic minorities ," said Martin Wakeling, head of group external affairs. "We are constantly reviewing our policies but not specifically as a result of the [Lawrence] report."

#### CHURCH OF ENGLAND



WHILE THE Anglican Church is the most willing to confess that it has some level of institutional racism It has put in place a number of strategies to tackle it. It also likes to describe itself as "the biggest black church in England" with 27,000 regular attenders from the black community, some 4.5 per cent of the regular congregation. It is beginning to attract more black clergy.



BT SAYS it has a clear discipline code that states that any individual can make a complaint against anyone they believe has discriminated against them. It has an "ethnic minority network" for workers, holds a course for managers on "training diversity" and has a "race champion" at board level. Nearly 7 per cent of BTs workers are from the ethnic minorities.

MARKS & SPENCER



racism, "because we do not allow discrimination on any grounds including racism". It has an Equal Opportunities policy throughout the company and there is a confidential helpline for anyone who thinks they are being bullied. An impressive 9.5 per cent of its workforce is recruited from ethnic minority backgrounds.

#### **BBC**



BOB NELSON, controller of develop ment and training, does not believe the BBC has institutional racism. The BBC has 1,550 or 7.4 per cent of its 20,000 workforce recruited from the ethnic minorities. Most of these are in lower to middle grades. The corporation has had targets for ethnic recruitment since 1990, he said. Next year's target is 8

#### LONDON FIRE BRIGADE



THE LONDON Fire Brigade has Just over 4 per cent of its uniformed staff from black or Asian communities. Ian Bone, the Brigade's director of personnel and training, recognises this does not reflect the racial make-up of Greater London. He says it has had difficulty recruiting from the ethnic minorities, in part because his staff are wrongly perceived to be like the police.

#### LLOYDS/TSB



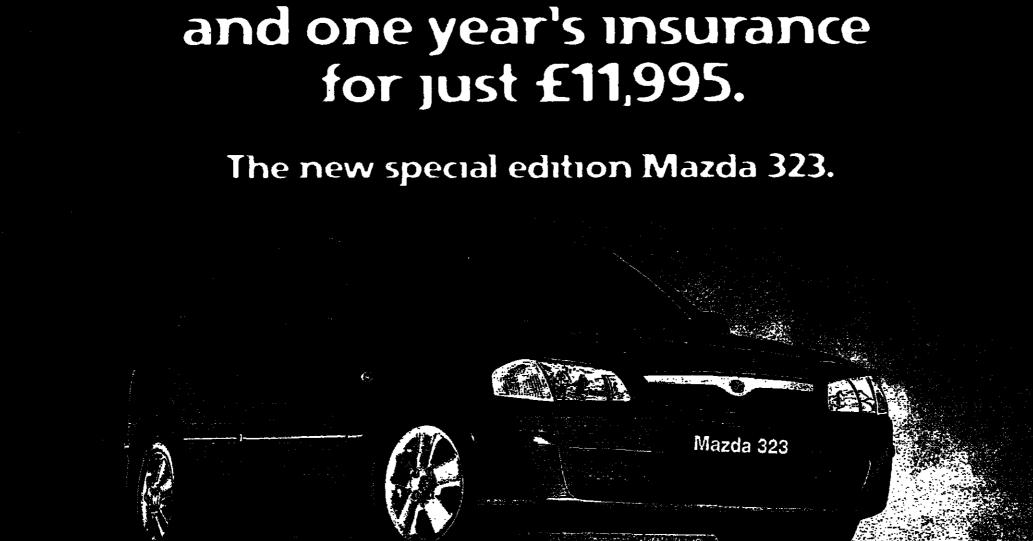
LLOYDS/TSB says work has been undertaken with recruiters to ensure it is seen as an attractive employer to black and Asian people". This, it says, has brought considerable success. Last year 19 per cent of all graduates joining the company where from ethnic minorities. However, in total only 1,940 of the workforce, or 3.1 per cent, are from the ethnic minorities.

#### BRITISH AIRWAYS



BA HAS one of the most impressive tracks records for recruiting from the ethnic minorities - some 13 per cent of its 45,000 UK workforce. BA says it have members of the ethnic minorities working at all levels of the organisation including Dr Ashok Ganguly, a non-executive board member. It says it has "an extensive equal opportunities policy in place, which is reviewed regularly".

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### IN THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE TOMORROW

### He lives in a caravan, digs holes and is Ireland's greatest boxing hero

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, IAN JACK, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, BRIAN VINER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

# Montgomery to be Ulster go-between

Chief Political Correspondent

DAVID MONTGOMERY has emerged as a go-between for Tony Blair in the efforts to try to end an impasse over parades in Northern Ireland.

Downing Street confirmed yesterday that the former chief executive of the Mirror Group has been involved in talks to end the protest by Loyalists over the refusal to allow them to march through Drumcree.

Mr Montgomery, regarded as a committed Ulsterman with strong "Orange" credentials, has not been given a specific task, but he is being encouraged to use his "very constructive influence" on the Loyalists to reach a compromise before their protest reignites the longrunning battle over the right to march through a republican community at Portadown.

"He has been involved in discussions with us about Drumcree," said the Prime Minister's official spokesman. "There is no specific role."

It is believed Mr Montyears in charge of the Mirror Group, has been engaged in talks with Jonathan Powell, the Prime Minister's chief of staff.



Montgomery: Has strong 'Orange' credentials

Blair, director in Scotland of the conciliation service Acas, in the hope that his arbitration skills will negotiate a way through the impasse with the Orangemen. The Acas chief has been asked by Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, to take a personal role in seeking a resolution to the

Mr Montgomery, who resigned after a falling-out with City investors, has a reputation as a hard-headed negotiator and he may be able to comgomery, who was forced out of mand the respect of the his post last month after seven Orangemen who have been im-Orangemen who have been impervious to all the attempts at persuasion by the Government.

Described as a "nervy Presbyterian", Mr Montgomery is putting more store in Frank ited from the late Robert Assembly.

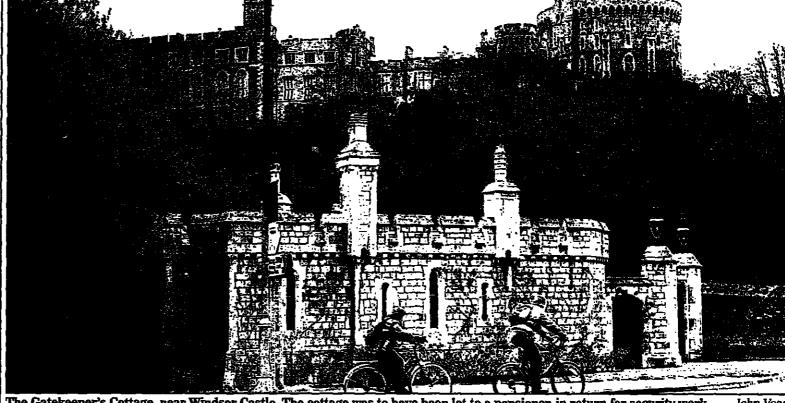
Maxwell and quickly impressed the City backers by his cost cutting at the Mirror Group.

But Mr Montgomery was hated by some of his staff for his ruthless readiness to sack peo ple and cut editorial costs in his former empire which, at one time, included The Independent. Under his direction, the Mirror Group bought the Belfast Newsletter, a strongly Loyalist newspaper.

The Drumcree protests, which flared into a bloody series of running battles with police last summer, threaten to form an ugly backdrop to the search for lasting peace unless the symbolic dispute over Loyalists' claims to a right to march in certain areas is resolved.

Tony Blair will today discuss the 10 March deadline for the handover of powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly with Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister.

The Ulster Unionist leader and First Minister, David Trimble, is insisting on a start to weapons decommissioning by the IRA before appointing Sinn Fein leaders to seats in his power-sharing cabinet. But the two governments are seeking ways to keep up the momentum towards the handover date. including signing a treaty



### Dueen tried to breach wage laws

THE QUEEN ordered the with- BY BARRIE CLEMENT drawal yesterday of an advertisement for a pensioner to work for 130 days a year without pay at Windsor Castle after The Independent pointed out that it was a clear breach of im-

pending minimum wage laws. In return for a tied cottage the pensioner was to perform routine "gatekeeping" duties, but was also to be responsible for security at an entrance regularly used by the Royal Family. After the decision to "reconsider the post", Neil

Labour Editor

"Thankfully the national minimum wage leaves behind for ever the days of seridom." Management at Windsor

Great Park set out the tasks of the successful applicant in an internal advertisement signed by the "Deputy Ranger". Applications were invited from staff who were about to retire or had recently done so. The tasks were:

Check personnel arriving at te and insure they are the GMB general union, said: security cleared before allow- area in the vicinity of the gate adults and a maximum deduc- anything contrary to the law."

ing entry. Work with castle and the adjoining gatehouse. police on matters of security. On request attend the gate for arrivals and departures for members of the Royal Family,

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The gatekeeper, who was to be responsible for the entrance to Home Park, was expected to be on duty when senior mem-

observance and application" of security regulations. Mr Moore said the job offer flew in the face of agreements on wages and contradicted minimum wage legislation, which comes into force in a month's time. The law will stip-

bers of the Royal Family were

in residence and ensure secu-

rity at the Town Gate by "strict

tion from weekly wages of £20 for a tied cottage. "We are talking about royalty

and security here." Mr Moore said. "The whole thing was outrageous and a slight on the old people of this country. They are trying to turn the clock back and make people into serfs."

A spokeswoman for the Crown Estate said management were grateful the matter had been brought to their attention and the post was now being "reconsidered". She added: "There is no question



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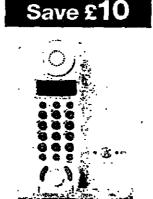
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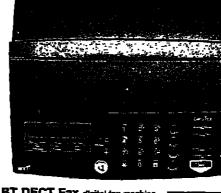
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# Blair tells rail firms: you're on trial

TONY BLAIR warned rail boss- By Philip Thornton es yesterday to improve services or risk losing their businesses. At the specially who called the meeting to adsummoned National Rail Sum- dress the rising tide of cusmit in London he said train performance, time-keeping and reliability must be improved or companies could not renew Secretary of State for Transtheir operating franchises.

"I want to make it perfectly clear to you that you are on after official figures showed trial," he told his audience of industry bosses.

"You are failing your customers and those who continthe rail industry of the future."

Mr Blair said present contracts would have to be honoured but he added: "We are standards, increasing investwilling to go beyond those arrangements by opening negotiations now, negotiations which will lead to an extension of the franchise for the bestperforming companies...

"We know that there are companies who will steer clear of this offer. The poor performers, those who are unwilling or unable to improve. For them, the end of their franchise called on the operators to comwill mean exactly that."

The conference, in London's addressed by a clutch of min-Prime Minister. John Prescott. Government had powers to

Transport Correspondent

tomer complaints about poor service on the railways.

Mr Prescott, who is also port, unveiled his vision for the railways at the summit, called punctuality and reliability were worse than when the network was controlled by British Rail.

Under his plans rail pasue to fail them have no place in sengers will get a vote in whether their train companies can stay in the industry under a radical plan aimed at raising ment and putting power in the hands of the commuter.

The troubled passenger rail network is to be thrown open to auction, the Government said. Successful operators will be allowed to bid for an extension to their franchise if they meet a six-point test. But only a limited number of franchises would be extended and the Government pete with each other.

Ministers warned that com-Queen Elizabeth II Centre was panies which failed their passengers would have no future isters, including the Deputy in the industry and said the

punish the failures and even step in and run the trains.

John Reid, the Transport minister, said the Government could not wait until 2003, when the franchises expired, to deal with the "glaring inadequa-cies" of existing arrangements.

"Only a limited number of franchises will be renegotiated and operators will have to compete with each other to be part of the first tranche." Dr Reid declined to say how many franchises would be up for grabs.

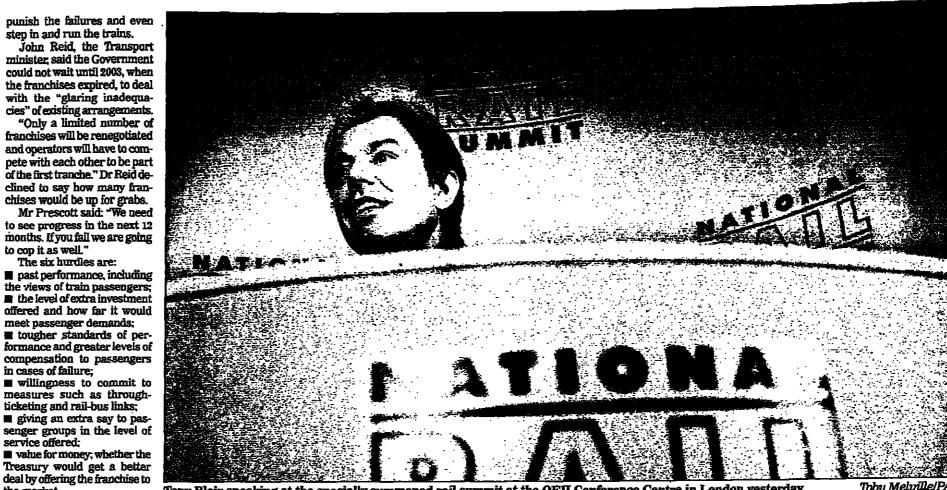
Mr Prescott said: "We need to see progress in the next 12 months. If you fail we are going to cop it as well." The six hurdles are:

past performance, including the views of train passengers; ■ the level of extra investment offered and how far it would meet passenger demands; ■ tougher standards of per-

compensation to passengers in cases of failure; ■ willingness to commit to measures such as throughticketing and rail-bus links; giving an extra say to pas-

service offered: value for money: whether the Treasury would get a better deal by offering the franchise to

senger groups in the level of



Tony Blair speaking at the specially summoned rail summit at the QEII Conference Centre in Loudon yesterday

Toby Melville/PA

### Passengers' patience runs out of steam

BY PHILIP THORNTON

CHARLES TAYLOR, who founded the East Suffolk Travellers Association almost 30 years ago, was full of praise for John Prescott but said he had heard little that would bring cheer to the travellers in his part of East Anglia. His area includes the Felixstowe-to-Ipswich branch line, which was one of the least punctual in the country, and the line from Ipswich to Peterborough, which offered just six trains a day.

"If we are trying to get people out of their cars and on to the trains, you must make it the rail summit yesterday easy to get to places like Peterborough. It is the biggest city in East Anglia and is a transport hub but we only get six trains a day. Coming the other way, from Peterborough to Ipswich, you can't get there until mid-

day," he said yesterday. Mr Taylor, who lives in Felixstowe, said he did not believe anything he heard at the summit would improve that. "It is about extra money and there was no sign of that. But we welcome the more positive approach." To solve the problems on the Felixstowe line required huge investment to upgrade it and provide new trains.

But Mr Taylor believed the Deputy Prime Minister was the best transport secretary in his 30 years of representing commuters, especially com-



A participant takes notes at

pared with the Tory ministers under Baroness Thatcher. "He is so positive and he does not hedge his bets."

John Saunders, of the Peterborough-to-Norwich rail users' group, said his concerns were exemplified by the small town of March, just inside the Cambridgeshire border.

He said there was a major access problem for disabled people at the station. "People with impaired mobility can only travel in one direction, because only one of the platforms is accessible."

Mr Saunders said he welcomed plans announced for new partnership schemes to solve these problems, but he added: "We needed to know the time-scale and the amount."

IN BRIEF

PRESCRIPTION CHARGES will rise by 10p to 25,90 next month, the Government announced. The increase, the

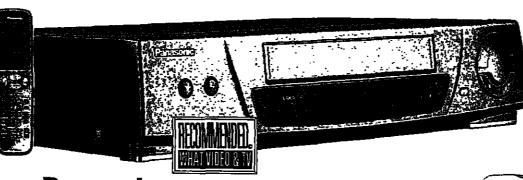
Prescription charges up 10p

lowest in 20 years, could raise £377m for the NHS. Maximum charge for a course of dental treatment will rise to £348, but those over 60 can have free eye tests. More time to question Irish trio SPECIAL BRANCH detectives have been given extra time to question three former Irish republican prisoners under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. Pat Coyle, Tony Miller and Sean McMonagle will be held for a further 24 hours after their arrest at Manchester airport on Tuesday.

Mother held on cruelty charge

A WOMAN aged 26 appeared in court yesterday charged with cruelty after her three-year-old son was found in the

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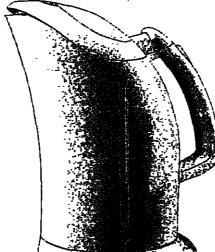
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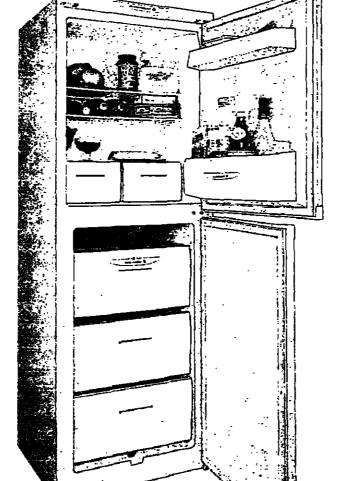
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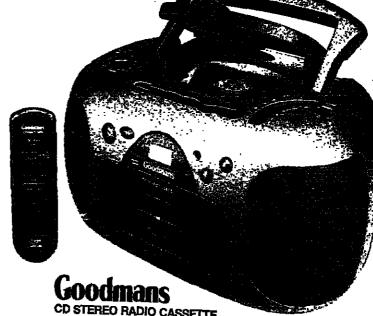


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#### back of a rubbish lorry. The woman appeared before magistrates in Swindon and was remanded in custody until 4 March. **Balloonists ready for Gulf crossing** TWO BRITISH balloonists trying to be the first to fly around the world were approaching the hardest stage of their flight last night. Andy Elson and Colin Prescot were said to be "confident" of rising to the challenge posed by unpredictable weather patterns over the Gulf. Parents may be sued over lice PARENTS OF children with hair lice are to be warned they could be prosecuted unless they treat the problem, under plans being considered by Stockton Borough Council. Cleveland. It says some parents are threatening to withdraw children from school because of fears about lice. Judgment reserved on relief road THE COURT of Appeal in London reserved judgment yesterday on a renewed attempt by local and environmental protesters to block the planned construction of the Birmingham Northern Relief Road. No date was set for the judgment.

# Itial Jail for gang who ran £70m cash laundry

launderer was jailed for 14 years yesterday after being caught "cleaning" £70m of criminals' cash through a small bureau de change in London.

Ussama El-Kurd, 50, was also fined £1m for laundering the money, which is believed to have come from gangs based in Liverpool Investigators believe much of the cash was used to buy drugs in the Netherlands, which were then resold in Merseyside. He was convicted on four money launder-

ing conspiracy charges. Peter McGuinness, 45, was jailed for 10 years for acting as a courier - he was filmed taking suitcases filled with up to £500,000 in £5, £10 and £20 notes to the bureau in Notting Hill, west London. This was changed for untraceable highvalue foreign currency, which

was then spent abroad.

Crime Correspondent

in his absence, having gone on the run two weeks ago during

The bureau is believed to have housed the largest single money laundering operation to have been uncovered in Europe. Customs officers called for new regulations to clamp down on dishonest money ex-

The man behind the operation, who is believed to have earned about 5 per cent of the takings - equivalent to £3.5m lived modestly in a semidetached house in Greenford, Middlesex.

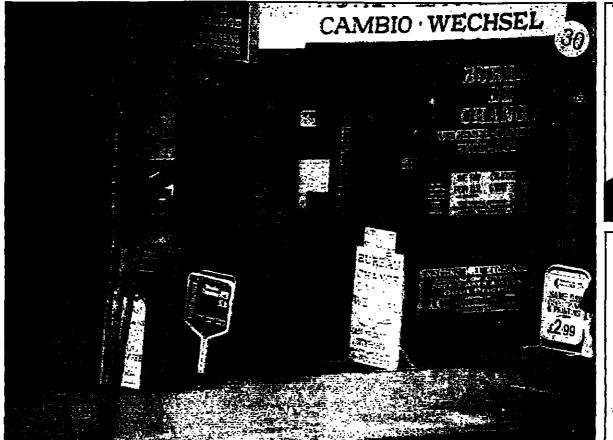
But in a secret counting house in the basement of the bureau, an estimated £70m passed through his shop in just jail. under two-and-a-half-years. Knightsbridge Crown Court in

ostentatious lifestyle, combined with meanness, forced staff to take buses to banks and travel agents whenever they wanted to change the cash.

After El-Kurd was arrested investigators found the bureau de change owner had £1.2m in 51 bank accounts across Europe, in addition to a £50,000 jewellery collection and £750,000 in two safety deposit boxes. A "float" of £250,000 was recovered from his office safe.

El-Kurd, the first person in England to be prosecuted and convicted solely as a money launderer, stood with his arms folded and showed no emotion as sentence was passed. If he fails to pay the £1m fine he will face a further three years in

Judge John Samuels QC told the father of five that from April 1994 to November 1996 his



Courier Peter McGuinness (also pictured bottom right) entering the bureau de change where Ussama El-Kurd (top right) laundered cash

criminals' cash.

"You not only willingly assisted one and all, but seized the opportunity avariciously to enrich yourself to a fabulous extent as a result," the judge

ness ferried at least £10m from Kurd's high street base, said Judge Samuels.

The scam involved exchanging low-value sterling notes for high value foreign bills - principally Dutch guilders,

tas and Swiss francs from a Merseyside's crime gangs to El- Thomas Cook bureau de Jerusalem, ran a car rental serchange at Marble Arch in central London, as well as branches of Barclays Bank and the Arab Bank.

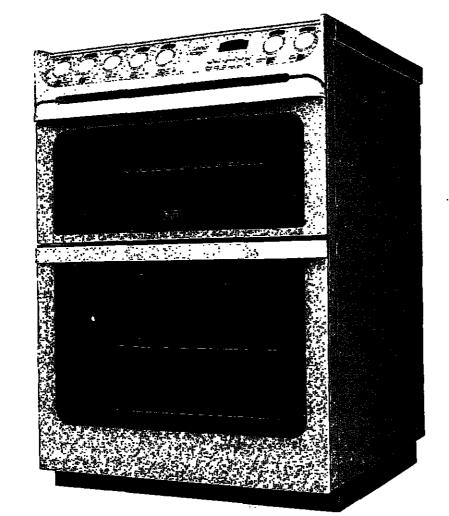
The two men were cleared of laundering drug-trafficking

El-Kurd, who was born in vice in Notting Hill eight years ago, but as the business fell into debt he set up shop as a money

As his turnover and profits

toms and Excise set up a sur veillance operation.

Daren Nicholls, a Customs officer involved in the case, said: "We believe this is the biggest launder in Europe. At the moment anyone can set up increased rapidly the National a bureau de change - the in-Investigation Service of Cus- dustry should be regulated."



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# Pilot refused credit to buy fuel died after plane's tank ran dry

A PILOT who was not allowed BY PHILIP THORNTON to use his credit card to pay for fuel for his light aircraft died when his tank ran dry and he crashed into the sea.

Fuel suppliers refused to accept the 49-year-old Austrian pilot's credit card so he asked them to put about £250 of fuel into the aircraft's tanks and paid by cash. But he underestimated the amount of fuel the plane needed and, while taking sale organised by a British company, crashed off the coast his daughter had been born. of Jersey on 12 June last year.

solo from Morocco to Iceland, plane to its buyer. He bought 725 ing time of eight hours and that to be that the commander had the report concluded.

Transport Correspondent

was heard to say "Oh shit" when both engines started to misfire, according to a UK Air Accidents Investigation Branch report out today. The report found the pilot had grossly overestimated how far the plane could fly without refuelling. It outlines a tracic series of events that led to the disaster, includthe Piper Navajo Chieftain to a ing the fact that the pilot learnt two days before the flight that

The man was acting as a "ferry pilot" delivering the

tanks, which could hold 931 litres. Because he had been delayed in Morocco for several

days he had probably run down

his supply of local currency. The plane's vendor had told the pilot that its maximum flying time was 6 hours 15 minutes when all the tanks were full. and that one fuel gauge did not work. He advised him to refuel in France, warning him that because the aircraft was 23 years old its fuel efficiency was less than a newer model.

But the pilot expressed the opinion that the plane had a fly-

he would consider refuelling in France only in the case of adverse winds. The engines started misfiring after five hours and 28 minutes. "There was simply not

enough fuel on board the aircraft when it left Tangiers for a non-stop flight to Guernsey unless the winds aloft significantly augmented the aircraft's ground speed, which they did not," said the report, "Evidently the commander ignored all the pre-flight and in-flight indications that he should land and refuel in France. The fundamental reason for the fuel exhaustion appears

a misplaced faith in his assumptions or calculations of the aircraft's range." In its report the branch

warned that the range of units used for aviation fuel - Imperial gallons, US gallons, pounds and kilograms - were a "potential trap for the unwary".

The plane sank almost immediately after hitting the water, and the body of the pilot was found still strapped to his seat. "Tiredness, mild hypoxia [oxygen deficiency], frustration and anxiety may have adversely affected the commander's judgement in the air,"

### Lifelong spy gets top post at MI6

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

THE NEW head of MI6, known within the secret service by the James Bond-style term "C". was finally announced by the Government yesterday.

Richard Dearlove, a career spy who joined the overseas intelligence service straight from Cambridge, will take over from the current chief. Sir David Spedding, when he retires in September Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, had considered candidates from outside the service but concluded that Mr Dearlove, 54, was the most appropriate choice for the top post, the Foreign Office said.

Mr Dearlove, who joined MI6 at the age of 21, will step up from his job as director of operations and assistant chief.

The title of "C" has been in existence within Whitehall since the post was created in 1909 for the head of the Foreign Section of the Secret Service Bureau. The term entered usage because Commander Sir Mansfield Cumming signed all his correspondence as "C". To this day, all MI6 chiefs refer to themselves by the term in letters to the Prime Minister and other ministers.

Mr Dearlove will work closely with his opposite number at MI5, Stephen Lander, to combat international crime as well as the more traditional tasks of spying on other nations.

His career history published by the Foreign Office yesterday shows that he mixed active service abroad, in Prague, Washington and Geneva with spells of less glamorous administrative work at home.

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "Mr Dearlove's broadranging operational career has given him particular experience of working closely with national and international intelligence, security and law enforcement agencies."

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Yesterbay we asked "are men as capable of bringing up children as women?"

75% of respondents thought men were as capable of bringing up children as women.

# Clockwork mouse takes fun out of Tom and Jerry show

I SUSPECT that Mr Redwood may motions. He lacks that thrilling un-be puring for Mr Mandelson. Rather predictability of reaction that used ers and the warm-up bouts. Add that in the way that Tom would fall into to liven Trade and Industry quesa depression if ever Jerry was put tions, the Lazarus of Parliamentary and Industry questions and you out of combat for any length of time, the shadow Trade and Industry good blow might leave him whirring Secretary appears melancholy repetitively until the mainspring these days, his whiskers drooping wound down. and his coat dull.

a clockwork mouse in comparison a top-of-the-card bout to Mr Mandelson, upholstered in grey felt and mechanical even in his Mr Redwood finds himself demot trepreneurs are entrepreneurs are

sessions. You get the feeling that one

Mr Redwood still goes through He had, I think come to depend the motions, naturally, but the zest on his regular beat-up sessions and glee seem to have drained with his former counterpart and to from his performance. And it isn't enjoy the vigorous work-out they afforded his powers of scorn and sar- should be. When Mr Mandelson was casm. He has a substitute, of course, at the dispatch box there was a genic intervention from Peter Brooke in Stephen Byers but Mr Byers is eral sense that we were watching

Now, through no fault of his own,

to the rather dull nature of Trade have the recipe for a powerful so-porific. "I'm wide awake this morning," Betty Boothroyd had warned Dennis Skinner after he had slyly referred to the shadow Secretary as Deadwood. I'm willing to bet she

wasn't 50 minutes later. A couple of moments may have interrupted her slow glide towards sleep. There was a peculiarly gnomon the question of encouragement for small businesses. Would the minister recognise, he said, "that enTHE SKETCH



SUTCLIFFE

entrepreneurs" and that it was more important for the Government not to hinder them than to actively assist them? "Brilliant!" shouted a

the Zen opacity of Mr Brooke's utterance. Michael Wills, replying for the Government, took the safest course. "I'm very happy to agree

with that," he said simply There were also some rather half-hearted jabs at Lord Sainsbury of Turville, with Christopher Chope suggesting that John Battle ask for his old job as science spokesman again and provoking a fine simulation of outrage from the minister in question. And there was an exitable intervention from Julie Kirkbride, who asked Mr Byers to comment on the declining fortunes of Rover under a Labour government. Mr Byers turned his nose up

the automobile sector in general had enjoyed an increase in exports. "Rover! Rover!" yelped Ms Kirk-bride furiously, like a woman trying to regain control of a wayward dog.

But the only real jolt of the day came during Points of Order, when Roger Gale rose to ask the Speaker about the mysterious disappearance of the Appendices to the Lawrence report. It had been lodged in the House of Commons Liheary on Wednesday, he said, but now it appeared to have been dislodged, the Home Office having belatedly realised that it might be an excess of candour to publish the names and addresses of police in-

Labour backbencher, impressed by at her precise question, replying that formers in Eltham. When Mr Gale for its hasty withdrawal were still unclear. Madam Speaker, sounding slightly disorientated to have been wrenched from her reveries. murmured something about "inac-

As it turned out this was wishful thinking and the Opposition got what, beneath the outward show of anxious concern, it secretly longed for - a gilt-edged government cockup. Mr Gale had asked whether the Home Secretary would be coming to the House to explain this bizarre oversight. In due course he will have to, and when he does everyone will

# **Tories attack** minister over shareholding

year holds shares in a telecommunications consultancy the new Register of Members' Interests revealed last night.

Stephen Timms, who became a Social Security minister in July, has neither sold his shares in Ovum Ltd nor placed them in trust.

Conservatives attacked Mr Timms last night for holding on to the shares. He worked for the firm for eight years before becoming an MP in 1994.

Iain Duncan Smith, Conservative social security spokes-man, said: "If Mr Timms received advice that he didn't need to sell these shares or place them in trust, I would question that advice. The social security department uses huge amounts of computer and telephone services.

A spokeswoman for the department said she did not believe Mr Timms had to sell the shares because there was no obvious conflict of interest. "It is a small company. It publishes research reports and does other consultancy work. We wouldn't buy what they have to

BY FRAN ABRAMS Westminster Correspondent

offer and there is no rule a minister cannot own shares."

Labour MPs were also eager to use the register to score political points. Chris Leslie, Labour member for Shipley, made a formal complaint that the Tory leader, William Hague, had not detailed his private flights in his entry declaring he often received hospitality and transport. Several ministers, including the Sports minister,

A MINISTER appointed last MEMBERS' INTERESTS Tony Banks and the Secretary of State for Culture, Chris Smith, made general declarations like Mr Hague's. They were cleared by the registrar.

The register allowed more than one MP to list interests they had previously failed to mention. Peter Mandelson, the former secretary of state for trade, registered his loan from Geoffrey Robinson, the former paymaster general. Edward Heath, the former prime minister, listed five advisory posts that had been the subject of complaints against him.

#### NEW ENTRIES ON REGISTER

Ann Widdecombe, Conservative Health spokesman, registered "one BBC reaspoon, bent and signed by Uri Geller. Intrinsic value nil. Value added according to Geller

considerable." Anthony Steen, Conservative MP for Tornes, registered "crabs

and lobsters" given in

recognition of his efforts on behalf of the industry.

Fiona Mactaggart, Labour MP for Slough, received a Fortnum and Mason hamper but gave it away to voluntary organisations.

John Major took 10 foreign trips between April and November 1998, including six to the United States.



Lord Sainsbury of Turville: The Tories say he should resign because he has been 'tainted by conflicts of interest'

Neville Elder

### Sainsbury 'tainted' by GM interests

THE TORIES stepped up pres- MODIFIED FOOD sure on Lord Sainsbury of By SARAH SCHAEFER Turville to resign amid the dispute over genetically modified products, accusing him of being

tainted by conflicts of interest". spokesman, launched his attack schools, old people's homes

Political Correspondent

during question time yesterday after the Local Government Christopher Chope, the Association decided to take party's trade and industry GM foods off the menu in

and town halls. Mr Chope said the decision showed it was "unwilling to put trust in the existing science minister, whether a blind trust, or any other sort

Industry minister, said Tories priority has always been and

But John Battle, Trade and were trying to "impugn the in-

tegrity? of Lord Sainsbury. crops and food do not threaten When a team is losing badly the last line of defence if you cannot skilfully get the ball is to go for the man-and that seems exactly what the Opposition is doing. The Government's top will continue to be that GM

environmental health or public safety and we will proceed with care and caution on the basis of the best available scientific advice. Scare-mongering and rumouring as the Tories have done in recent weeks is most

Byers will

STEPHEN BYERS, the Secre-

tary of State for Trade and In-

dustry, warned that the

Government would not "bail

out" Rover's troubled

Longbridge car plant with a

large cash injection from the

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### Falconer turns back on Mandelson's Dome style

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

LORD FALCONER of Thoroton, the new minister for the Millennium Dome, said yesterday he would take a more "hands off" approach to the project than Peter Mandelson

In evidence to the Culture. Media and Sport Select Committee the Cahinet Office minister made clear be did not intend to follow the flamboyant role of his predecessor. "I regard my role as share-

holder, not as a micro-manager. It's not for me as shareholder to start fiddling around at the edges," he said.
During his term in charge of

the Dome in Greenwich, southeast London, Mr Mandelson took a high-profile role in promoting it at home and abroad. Lord Falconer said the pro-

ect was still on schedule to meet its £150m target for private investment, and had already raised more than double the previous government fund-

TONY BLAIR spoke with the

Germany, about the right of

Gibraltarians to vote in EU

elections after a European

it is unlikely legislation can

be passed in time to include

Gibraltar in this June's poll.

Lodging interest

FREEMASONS WHO

to register the fact,

become members of the

Welsh Assembly will have

Secretary of State for Wales

Alun Michael indicated, He

said he was "minded" to

Crop concerns

MINISTERS PROMISED to

environmental implications

make freemasonry a

registrable interest.

explain clearly the

Court of Human Rights decision on the matter. But

Spanish Prime Minister,

Jose Maria Aznar, at a

today's Euro-summit in

private dinner before

Rock rights



Lord Falconer: Hands-off

raising record of 260m for the Euro 96 football tournament The minister also confirmed that there would be no cable car ride to transport visitors to the Dome, a fact that was a source of "immense regret" to the Government

In response to the Archbishop of Canterbury's claims earlier this week that he would boycott the Dome if it failed to have a significant Christian celebration, Lord Falconer insisted that the project's Spirit Zone was an integral part of the

### THE HOUSE



of GM crops following a plea from the chairman of English Nature, Baroness Young of Old Scone. Agriculture minister Lord Donoughue said: "Yes, I can give that assurance."

#### Bar to youth

MEMBERS OF the European Youth Parliament will not be allowed to use the Chamber of the House of Commons during recesses, Marion Roe, the Tory MP for Brochourne and chairman of the Commons Administration Committee, said.

#### not bail out Rover TRADE QUESTIONS By Paul Waugh whole operation. "It is 2000 years from the birth of Christ. That must be appropriately

faiths," he said. He dismissed a suggestion from John Maxton, Labour MP for Glasgow Cathcart, that the Dome should have no religious element because 1 January taxpayer. was not a significant date, un-

marked at the end of the year.

That's not to exclude other

like 25 December. The head of the company behind the scheme earlier told the MPs that the millennium exhihition could be extended into 2001 if there was sufficient pub-

lic demand. Jenny Page, chief executive of the New Millennium Experience Company, said that she did not want to rule out such a

To get to the end of 2000 and still have an extra demand would have to be more than fantastic, it would have to be extraordinary. We would have to talk about whether a suitable extension would have to be made," she said.

#### Minutes lost

THE COMMONS sat for a daily average of eight hours and 59 minutes in January 1999 compared with nine hours and 11 minutes in January 1979, Margaret Beckett, the Leader of the House, said yesterday.

#### Food assurance THE PRIME Minister said

he could see no reason for an inquiry into the Government's handling of genetically modified foods. "I am entirely satisfied the issue of GM foods is being correctly handled and therefore see no need for an inquiry," Mr Blair said.

#### In the frame

RECENT BIG budget films made wholly or partly in Britain include The Mummy and Soving Private Ryan. The new James Bond film, The World Is Not Enough, is

#### Speaking at trade and industry question time, the minister refused to confirm speculation that he had prepared a £100m rescue package for the West Midlands

More than 14,000 jobs at the plant hang in the balance as Rover's German owner, BMW. decides whether to reinvest in new production in the wake of

Mr Byers said he believed strongly that the factory had a bright future and his department was prepared to offer financial support to boost its productivity levels, but it was up to BMW to put in the necessary

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

currently being shot here, the Culture minister Janet

#### **Phial tested**

A GLASS phial unearthed at a military base in Scotland is being tested for mustard gas, the Defence minister John Spellar said. The bottle was found on Wednesday near Stirling.

#### Today's agenda

Amplian Hare

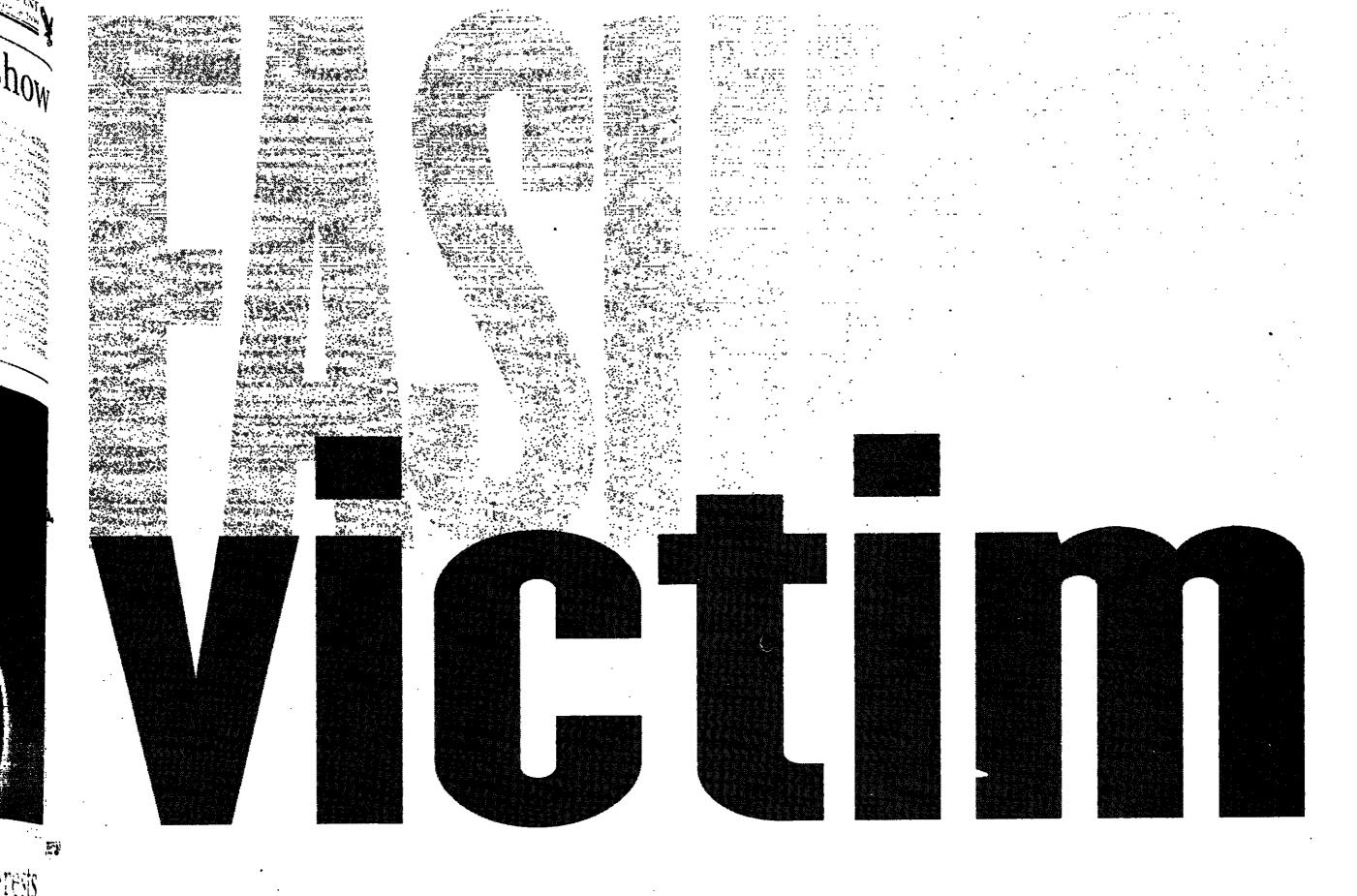
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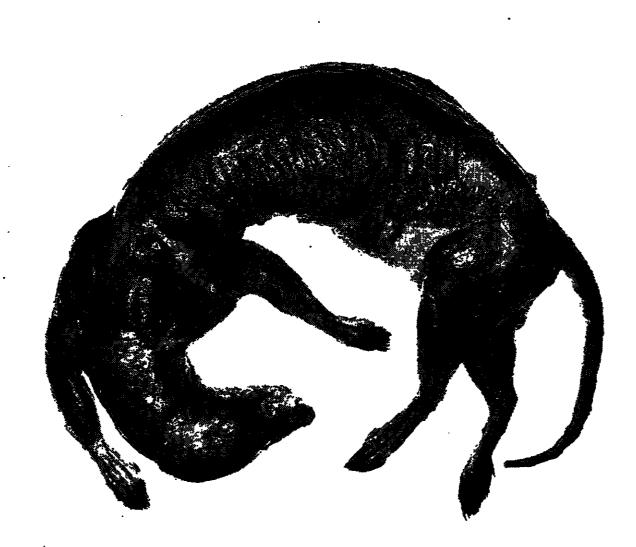
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Commons, 9.30am. Protection of Children Bill, second reading. Company and Business Names (Chamber of Commerce) Bill Short debate on Rivenhall and Essex waste disposal plan.

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eal fur. It's to die for. In fact, every year tens of thousands of mink do, on fur farms throughout the UK. In the wild, mink establish territories of over a kilometre, where they climb, dive and swim. On farms, they are confined in rows of tiny cages. In such restricted conditions mink show abnormal behaviour. There are instances of fur-biting and even self-mutilation. We at the RSPCA believe that this is cruel. Nevertheless, there are still those who would kill for a real mink coat. The preferred method of slaughter on most farms is to gas the mink. On March 5th, the MP Maria

Eagle's Bill to ban fur farming in the UK will be debated in the Commons. A new opinion poll revealed that 74%<sup>†</sup> of the British public support a ban on fur farming. If you're part of this majority please write to your MP urging them to attend the House on March 5th and to vote in favour of the Bill. Then next season we might see fur coats where they belong. On the backs of their original owners.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THE RSPCA ON 01403 223 284.









# Apprentice superstars strut their stuff

IT'S THE world's most famous By Susannah Frankel fashion school - and its greatest. Choose any name in contemporary fashion, from John Galliano to Alexander Mc-Queen and from Philip Treacy to Antonio Berardi and, chances are, they cut their fashion teeth at Central Saint Martins, Travel overseas and

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you'll find the design studios of the mighty, the likes of Donna Karan, Calvin Klein, Gucci and Donatella Versace are exploiting the talents of Saint Martins' graduates to the full.

catwalk for their first time: it is only fitting that the names who will shape the future of fashion close the show. All in all it was an unusually restrained offercolour for the millennium and minimal silhouettes dom-

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From left, Emma Cook's beautiful beaded tops, Russell Sage's lovely glimpse of the past, and a George Saver touch of clasp

year's MA students took to the were the requisite strange protuberances, polyur-ethane peeping out at collars and cuffs and plinky-plonky soundtrack from Mars, of course.

Students can afford this sort ing with acres of white - the of indulgence - it is their job to push fashion forward. Less Yesterday the pick of this inating proceedings. There there was barely any gratuitous

fashion designers are perhaps more sensible than their elders. Or maybe it's more that a

rather sombre aesthetic alongside the futuristic one - is coming to the fore. Grunge is not banished from our lives predictable was the fact that for ever, it seems. Names to

WHEN YOU BUY 12"

a leatiet

in-store

and start

vouchers

**VOUCHERS** 

**FOR ALL** 

YOUR

nudity to be seen. Tomocrow's Cook - her jackets, beaded and appliqued with found objects including pieces of discarded fur are beautiful.

> one garments in honey trimmed with rose. The definition of a skirt suit, say, was only evident in the seams.

> cycled feel. It was lovely for it. As far as jewellery is concerned George Sayer stood out, continuing the contemporary concern with clasping or encasing face, neck and shoulders rather than simply adorning them.

Knitwear tended to be of the chunky, organic variety: cute sweaters with a cactus motif teamed with tartan skirts at Panajotis Katsos, as did a penchant for tomato - the colour, that is, not the fruit. Next week the fashion pack

Ester Angulo sent out all-in-

Russell Sage's collection, like Cook's, had a distinctly re-Ministers are keen to root

Cowboy traders face stiff penalties

ROGUE CAR salesmen, dodgy builders and crooked insurance companies will be closed within weeks rather than years ing Act requires trading stanunder tough government plans to root out Britain's worst "rip off" traders.

The Department of Trade and Industry will create a fasttrack procedure to ensure that fraudulent and reckless businesses face fines and possible closure soon after a public

A DTI White Paper on consumer protection being drawn up by ministers will contain proposals to amend the fair trad-ing laws and give councils much greater powers to crack down.

At present, rogue traders can operate for up to 10 years without being severely fined, because trading standards officers have to build up an exhaustive dossier of evidence against them to prove persistent malpractice.

Under the proposals, local councils will seek injunctions from magistrates' courts within weeks, or even days. Court orders will force the company directors to cease activities or face unlimited fines or jail.

out those businesses, such as building firms, car salesmen and timeshare companies, which frequently prey on the elderly and the vulnerable.

We want to nail these guys as quickly as possible," said a ministerial source. "These dodgy outfits can abuse the current system to continue trading for years after a com-

plaint is first made."

Political Correspondent

dards officers to refer fraudulent firms to the Director General of the Office of Fair Trading. The firms are then given a "last chance" to improve their behaviour in a voluntary agreement. Only if they are found to breach that can the OFT obtain a High Court in junction to fine them.

The act has long been criticised by consumer groups because lengthy bureaucratic delays allow the offenders to continue trading, some for four years before an injunction. In 1994-95, the latest figure recorded, just three injunctions were issued against rogue firms.

Keith Hale, senior executive officer of the Local Authorities Co-ordinating body on Trading Standards, said councils had been urging the changes for years.

"The consumer needs to be protected," he said. "We should be able to take the first breach [of conduct] to obtain an injunction. The new proposal would have the potential to bring rogue traders before the courts in very short order.

"It would be very much more difficult for a dodgy business to ignore the consequences of their actions."

The DTI White Paper, which will also set up a consumer unit to ensure UK prices are in line with European ones, is expected in the spring. Primary legislation will be needed but ministers believe parliamen-Part III of the 1973 Fair Trad- tary time will be found for it.

### Are you a breezer, a poser, a steamer or just a boozer?

THE LAGER lout has been replaced by seven distinct drink-

ing types propping up the bars The categories - steaming, posing, homing, savouring, Brooksiding, breezing and adapting - were identified in a

ween 18 and 50 by the Whitbread Beer Company. "Breezers" are cool sophisticates who drink for fun, like

poll of 3,000 drinkers aged be-

By Cathy Comerford

Anna in This Life. Getting drunk may be the end result but is not the purpose.

Leonardo DiCaprio or Liam Gallagher, are "steamers" whose intention is to fall down

A "Brooksider" has a rushed pint after work and dashes home before the soaps end. A "poser" only drinks la-

belled bottled beers anti choos es the bar for its image.

"Homers" try to escape domestic strife in the pub. Inspector Morse and Ken Clarke are in the "savouring" category. Men over 35, they

contents of their glass as well as swallowing it. The "adapter" is the young drinker unsure how to fit in or

spend hours discussing the

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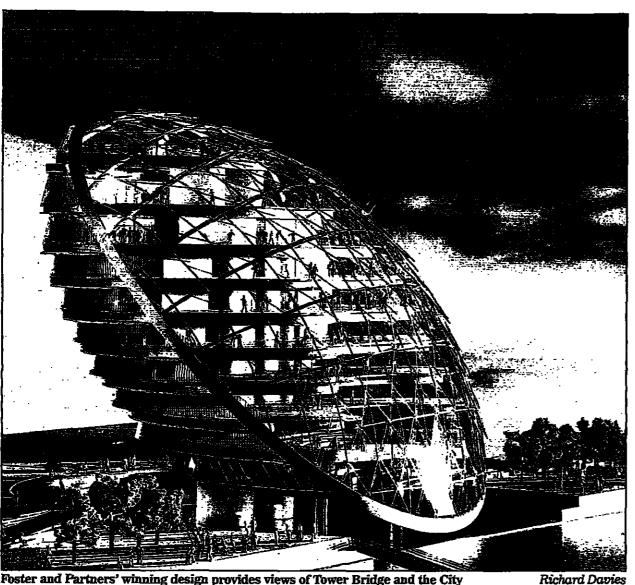
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# £20m 'bubble' for London's city hall

Political Correspondent

A SPECTACULAR glass-fronted building overlooking Tower Bridge is to be the £20m new home for London's mayor and

Nick Raynsford, the minister for London, will end months of speculation when he announces today that the London Bridge City project has been chosen to house the mayor's office, an assembly chamber and the authority's 400 staff. Sir Norman Foster's 10-

storey development on the Thames will become the headquarters of the Greater London Authority when it is completed next year. The Independent Whether Ken Livingstone. Jeffrey Archer or Mr Raynsford

himself will inaugurate the

building as Britain's first di-

rectly elected mayor remains to be seen, but the Government is satisfied the project is a fitting Sir Norman's futuristic design, home for the authority. with fully glazed facade to allow The landmark new building the assembly chamber a clear was seen by Tony Blair as the view of the river, and believe it

ning views over the heart of the reflecting the authority's "gocapital and its proximity to ahead" spirit.

The building will have an Tower Bridge, a symbol of the city across the globe. The deopen-top roof terrace reached velopment, which will be ready by two enclosed glass lifts that six months after the authority travel outside the building. A elections in May 2000, features 10th-floor gallery, described by Foster and Partners as "Lona new pier to allow the mayor and visitors to arrive by boat. don's Living Room", will host Ministers were impressed by major events and banquets of up to 200 people.

The rejected Bloomsbury Square scheme

Close to the new Jubilee Line Tube station at London Bridge, the building was also sewill become a 21st-century icon

mentally friendly design.

The scheme has beaten the other contender for the authority site, a classical office block near the British Museum in Bloosmbury. The two projects were whittled down from

an original list of 50 last year. The Bloomsbury scheme was withdrawn temporarily from the bidding earlier this year when English Heritage objected to its design, but was resubmitted with support from its local council. Camden.

Niall Duffy, leader of Southwark council, said he was delighted by the move as it would provide up to 10,000 jobs for local people.

"From the outset, we have been convinced that Southwark and this very special site are the ideal location for a landmark building that represents London's aspirations for the 21st century," he said.

The Greater London Authority will have an annual budget of £3bn and take responsibility for public transport, planning and policing in the capital from 3 July 2000.

# **NUT** rejects linking pay to results

TEACHERS ARE threatening BY JUDITH JUDD to derail the Government's schools standards agenda if plans to pay them by results are

The biggest teachers' union revealed widespread opposition throughout the profession yesterday to proposals to link pay to performance.

In the largest survey carried out so far on teachers' views of the Green Paper, four out of five rejected performance-related pay based on an annual asbeing judged partly by their graduates. pupils' results. About 26,000 of the 195,000 in-service mem-Teachers replied to a quesprocessed by Warwick Univer- tracking. sity's Institute of Education.

general secretary, said the pupil achievement and annual survey showed a massive rejection of the Government's mance will divide schools. A ideas and threatened a cam- massive bureaucracy will denaign of "non-co-operation" if velop to support an annual the proposals were imposed on MoT at substantial cost which the profession.

cannot progress its standards morale of teachers, which the agenda without the support of Government says is its aim." the teachers. It should not risk imposing the kind of changes which the union is saying it to-

ernment's difficulties in raising al action.

**Education Editor** 

school standards on its alienation of the profession.

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, has said be cannot believe that teachers will turn down the offer of £1bn, which is available for performance-related pay for teachers.

Under the new system, teachers will be able to take an "MoT" test to pass a threshold sessment by heads or senior and will then be enlitted to teachers. And an even higher extra pay. The best classroom proportion of the 15,000 who teachers will be able to earn up replied - 90 per cent - were to £35,000 a year and there will adamantly opposed to teachers be a fast track for bright young

But the union's survey found that hostility to fast tracking bers of the National Union of was just as strong among its younger members as among tionnaire and the responses of its older ones. Overall, only 7.4 15,000 of them have so far been per cent agreed with fast-

Mr McAvoy said: "Teachers Doug McAvoy, the union's know that linking their pay to appraisals of their own perforwill not benefit children's edu-He said: "The Government cation nor raise the status and

Consultation on the Green the profession's co-operation by Paper finishes next month, just before the union's annual conference, which will hear calls for "non-co-operation" with Critics blamed the last gov- the Government and industri-

### **New Banking and Savings** Interest Rates from Nationwide

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# College students swamped by debt

UNDERGRADUATES ARE being BY BEN RUSSELL forced into an "underclass" Education Correspondent plagued by debt, student leaders said yesterday.

The National Union of Students said many of its members faced a shortfall of more than £2,000 a year on average, as living costs outstripped the available students loans. A report published yesterday claimed "this waste of potential and resources is a national scandal". being forced into debt." A union survey found nine in

ten full-time students were taking paid work to cover their costs - with four in ten working during term time.

Half said their work interfered with their studies. Students worked, on average, for 13 hours a week in term time, rising to 26 hours during holidays. A quarter of students hardship and access funds said they were always short of available. We should not equate money, and one in five said they missed meals because of financial difficulties. About half arrangements, graduates will of those surveyed said money not repay anything until their difficulties hindered their aca- earnings exceed £10,000. You

president, said: "A student un- cent more than non-graduates derclass is emerging people after they get their degree."

Education Correspondent

who always feel very hard up who are in acute difficulties with their studies. These students are failing to get the most out of their time in education and it is almost creating a caste system. The Government thinks that students have to get a degree to get a job, but they are

He said the £250 hardship grants introduced last year were welcome, but called for increased funding to be directed at the worst off.

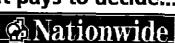
A spokeswoman for the Department for Education and Employment said: "Student support is being increased in line with inflation and there are debt with hardship.

"Under the new loan have to remember that gradu-Andrew Pakes, the union ates are likely to earn 20 per

#### RATES FOR ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW SAVERS

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It pays to decide...



The World's No.1 Building Society

# Grammys do the time-warp again

WERE THESE the Grammy BY ANDREW GUMBE awards for 1999 or 1969? in Los Angeles Where the British winners were concerned, anyway, this year's annual American music industry awards showed a in the prime of youth, either. strong penchant for the tried and tested, with old-timers such as Eric Clapton, Elvis there were some daring choic-Costello and Jimmy Page eclipsing more up-to-date, not Hill, the 23-year-old hip hop

to say youthful, names. long as he has wielded his beloved guitar, was named Grammys - a record for a febest male vocalist in the pop category for his song "My Fa- of the year and best new artist. ther's Eyes". Page, with another heavy jamming warhorse from times past, Robert Plant, took the gong for mys for Ray of Light), Sheryl best hard rock performance for Crow (best rock album for The the track "Most High". Meanwhile, Costello, a mere spring sette (best rock song and best chicken, won the award for best female rock vocal for "Uninpop collaboration with vocals for "I Still Have That Other Girl", teaming up with the leg-

Bacharach - not exactly a man In an awards ceremony

known for its conservatism, es. The big winner was Lauryn singer from the Fugees who Lauryn Hill. She won five male artist – including album

Women dominated almost all of the main categories, including Madonna (four Gram-Globe Sessions), Alanis Morisvited") and Celine Dion.

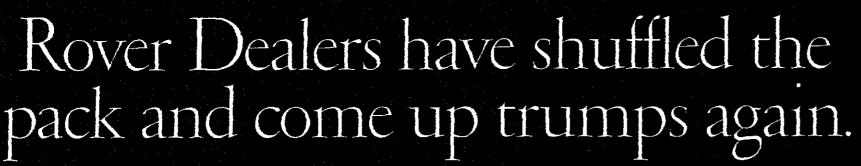
For Madonna, the awards came as belated recognition for

music industry - she had never won a Grammy before for anyendary songwriter Burt thing other than best video. If she had seemed risque in the past, on Wednesday night she seemed a venerable elder of the music establishment, performing one of her songs in an arresting, but hardly controversial, Japanese gown.
As for Dion, the four awards

Clapton, who has been bran-struck gold with her debut for herself and her ubiquitous dishing Grammys almost as album, The Miseduccation of tune, "My Heart Will Go On", confirmed the continuing weakness awards committees have for the hit film Titanic.

With the exception of Hill, there were no real surprises. Perhaps the emblematic moment was a performance by Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner from their award-winning spoken comedy album, The 2000-Year-Old Man in the Year 2000: entertainers raised in an earlier, more inspired, age who looked almost as old as the hero of their act.







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# **Steroids** found in herbal medicine

DOCTORS CALLED for tighter BY JEREMY LAURANCE regulation of Chinese herbalists yesterday after researchers discovered that herbal skin ointments sold as "natural" alternatives to orthodox medicines actually contained powerful and potentially dangerous relapses and remissions make

Analysis of 11 creams supplied by herbalists in south

tor's prescription. The creams had such large amounts of steroid they could have damaged delicate skin. Creams for children, whose skin is most vulnerable, contained five times more steroid than the adult creams. Patients, most of whom already had eczema, were charged up to £35 a week.

Dr Fiona Keane and colleagues from King's College Hospital, London, who report their findings in the British Medical Journal, say no warnings were given to patients about the risks of the creams on thin skin:

Dr Keane said: "These patients were going to herbal practitioners because they didn't want to use the steroid creams given to them by their GPs and dermatologists, But they weren't told the herbal remedies contained steroids.

"The ointments were unlabelied jars with no instructions, and they contained doses of steroids higher than in the creams they could have had from their GPs. One could say it is a fraud."

Eczema is a chronic dis-

Health Editor

ease that comes and goes, and is commoner in childhood. Many patients try alternative remedies because the natural them feel orthodox treatments are not working.

The danger of steroids, when London showed eight of them used in excessive quantities, is contained a potent steroid that they thin the skin of the called dexamethasone, which is face, making blood vessels illegal in Britain without a doc- appear more prominent and unsightly. The effect is permanent and irreversible. In other areas of the body, steroids can cause stretch marks and leave skin more susceptible to infections

and bruising. Dr Keane said a register of Chinese herbal practitioners was being set up and the Medicines Control Agency was investigating "non-bona fide" practitioners who supply pre-

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scription drugs illegally. "We examined only a small number of creams obtained in south London and not all herbal practitioners are involved," she said. "Dermatologists have worked with bona fide Chinese herbal practitioners before."

Five years ago, the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London, tested a herbal tea made by a Chinese practitioner as a remedy for eczema and found it worked. That treatment is now used in a standardised dose for children.

More than 100 cases of poisoning or serious side-effects linked to Chinese and other traditional medicines have been -ecorded by the National Poisons Unit at Guy's Hospital,

### Campers maimed by exploding cans

camping stoves and lights are like "bombs waiting to ignite", doctors warned yesterday.

A series of horrific injuries has been caused by the canisters exploding as people tried to change them. In one case a lorry driver sustained 60 per cent burns from a canister that ignited in his cab.

Burns specialists from Salisbury District Hospital in Wiltshire, who describe the cases in a letter to the British Medical Journal, saw nine patients injured by the canisters last

BUTANE GAS canisters used in By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

> summer They wrote: "If the canister is not secured immediately after it is pierced it acts as a bomb waiting to ignite."

> Richard Strode, managing director of Camping Gaz, said the company was moving away from the pierceable canisters to

ones with a screw valve system. "A number of consumers with old appliances still want to buy the old canister. We are moving as fast as we can to the new kind." Mr Strode said

MILES KINGTON



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IN THE FRIDAY REVIEW



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# Boy found alive under Tyrol avalanche

THE INTERNATIONAL airlift By IMRE KARACS involving helicopters from Aus- in Landeck tria, the United States and Gerholidaymakers to safety yesterday from the valley in Tyrol

32 people earlier in the week. Among those rescued and

many brought thousands of has made a full recovery and even smiled yesterday.

Six people are still missing, where avalanches killed at least but the Austrian army was preparing to pull out all rescue workers from the devastated evacuated was a four-year-old village of Galtur last night, Austrian boy, who had been pro- because of the growing threat nounced dead on Wednesday of further avalanches. The road after being buried for two hours leading to the stricken villages

ing whether to start clearing it.

For the first time in a week, the Alps showed their gentler face yesterday, basking in glorious sunshine. The sky above Landeck, the centre of the Austrian operation, swarmed with helicopters ferrying people out of danger and bringing special teams equipped with shovels in the other direction.

The US Blackhawks, diver-

were due to decide this morn- Kosovo, flew in formations of cians, with obsolete technology Galtur to the world. The narrow four. Too heavy to land at the because of successive defence local barracks, they began their missions from a motorway a few miles outside the village.

The arrival of foreign aircraft nevertheless caused acute embarrassment to the government in Vienna.

The larger craft used by the Germans and Americans exposed the shortcomings of Austria's armed forces, saddled, ted from possible duties in according to opposition politi-

cuts. Many Austrians found it helped out by Germany.

Unaware of the storm brewing in the capital, the brighter weather in Tyrol was welcomed by the pilots. But the sudden rise in temperatures introduced new perils, especially helicopters to Landeck were along the road that used to con-

valley had received three metres of snow in the space of particularly humiliating that five days, much of it hanging their neutral country had to be perilously over the road. As temperatures rose and the snow began to melt, officials warned of an "extremely high

> the coming days. Most of those arriving on the

risk" of more avalanches in

harrowing tales to tell.

Michael Holland, a Dutch

colonel, was separated from his wife and three daughters as the avalanche struck on Wednesday afternoon. "I heard a sound like thunder, and then a second bang, and the house filled with snow," he recalls.

"My apartment was in the basement. The rest of the cheerful, but those rescued house was blown away. When I nect the villages of Ischgl and from Valzur, a small resort crawled outside through the

between Ischgl and Galttr, had window, I saw cars tossed all over like matchboxes. The rest of the building was down the valley." He went searching for his family and found them safe and well in a part of the village that had been protected by trees. He then spent all night

digging for survivors. We chose this area for our skiing holiday because there was a good chance of snow here." Colonel Holland said. "But this year it was too much."

# Three safe after 10 days in an igloo

THANKS TO a mobile phone, BY JOHN LICHFIELD guts and survival know-how, in Paris three mountaineers were rescued yesterday after spending 10 days in a makeshift igloo at a height of 9,000ft in the French

The three Frenchmen, aged between 37 and 40, were located by a helicopter after a final call from a mobile phone with a fading battery enabled France Telecom to identify their approximate position high in the Vanoise massif on the French-Italian border. They were taken to hospital, suffering from dehydration and mild hypothermia but were described as being in remarkably good physical and mental

Apart from their original decision to scale the massif in the Puma helicopter to circle the worst winter conditions in the Alps for decades, rescuers said the trio, all experienced mountaineers, did everything right. As soon as they were trapped by blizzards 10 days ago, they dug an igloo into the ice and snow beneath a wall of rock. For for days," said the helicopter four days, they waited for a pilot Jérôme Graille. "I landed break in the weather before giving the alarm by mobile tele-

phone on Saturday. Searches by helicopter, and by gendarme mountain rescue squads on foot and on skis, failed to trace the igloo. On Sunday, the men - Christophe Palichleb from Paris and two brothers, Olivier and Phillippe

Bourgues from Perpignan called again to say they had run out of food but remained in good

For three days, as the rescue teams battled through mists and blizzards, nothing more was heard. It was assumed that the battery of their mobile was flat. Finally, on Wednesday, with concern for the men mounting, they called again. At first it was feared that the call might be a hoax. But France Telecom verified the number and located, to within a few kilometres, the point of origin of the call.

A break in the weather yesterday allowed a French army area. It was seen by one of the three men, who had emerged from the igloo intending to try fetch help. "We found them in a sector

we haven't been able to enter

ier... There was a moment of intense joy. No one spoke much. There was so much emotion and tension." Bernard Airenti, head of the civil protection ser-"They're doing fine, mostly be-

their morale.'





Rescuers walking in the mountain near the makeshift igloo, from where they plucked three hikers to safety; helicopters heading to the Alps as conditions improve

### You can't tell them, but you know there is no hope'

with no problems on the glac- FOR A man who has not slept BY IMRE KARACS a wink for two days and has just returned from Galtür, Gerhardt Simperi does not look too bad.

"You have to suppress your feelings and get on with the

vice in the Savoie area, said: job," he says with a smile. He has worked for 35 years cause they managed to keep up for the mountain rescue team at Landeck, brought many peo-

in Landeck

ple to safety, and is happy to demonstrate the workings of his main tool of trade. The long you pull someone out alive." stick with which he pokes through the snow is assembled by screwing together pieces nesting in the side pocket of his he relates the rest of his story, all those children; eight pulled down the valley." That is how

fingertips straight away were dead I found no one alive." whether the obstacle below is a person or just debris," he says. "It's a wonderful feeling when

Under Galtur's blanket of ings smashed into a thousand crushed snow, he found four people, including a child. But as had lost someone, and, worst of

rucksack. "You can feel in your the smile fades. "All of them out dead." You dig and dig, and the child was found, crushed by then you find them, and you see His long years of service the terror in their faces - you had not prepared him for the never forget that." horrors of Galtur. "You cannot

imagine what it was like. Build-

pieces, the panic of people who

One child, he said, had been having a bath as the avalanche struck at 250kph on Tuesday. "It pushed the concrete wall and the tub behind it 100 metres

the masonry and the snow. "The worst is the reaction of relatives," he continues, struggling to maintain his composure. "They never give up hope, especially if it is a child buried. They keep waiting. You can't tell

them, but you know from ex-

perience there's no hope."

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# Farm row splits EU partnership

EUROPEAN UNION leaders By JOHN LICHFIELD meet loday amid a flurty of public insults between France and Germany. You have to go back 16 years - some say 36 years to find such irreconcilable differences on EU policy between the two nations at the heart of

The Germans insist that after four decades it is time for the French to pay their own way in Brussels. The French say the new government in Bonn is arrogant, rude and "autistic". Worse, they accuse the Germans of "behaving like Margaret Thatcher".

In retaliation, German officials are making fun of the imperial pretensions of President Jacques Chirac. They leaked the fact that he wants to bring overall settlement requires his own office furniture and three container loads of documents to the one-day EU summit at Petersberg, near Bonn.

The informal summit - on how to finance the EU as it enlarges to the east and how to reform the common agricultural policy (CAP) - is programmed for crisis. In the EU, you must always have a crisis before you can have a solution.

The chief surprise is that the summit looks likely to become mostly a quarrel between the two countries which normally pride themselves on fixing the broad lines of EU policy in

There will also be enormous pressure on the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, to renegotiate the 15-year-old permanent British EU budget rebate.

There will be pressure on the Italians to pay more into the EU and pressure on the Spanish. Portuguese and Irish to take less out. There will be pressure on the Germans to moderate their demands for a reduction of their own huge net payments to Brussels.

But Gerhard Schröder's leftgreen coalition in Bonn, which presides over all EU negotiations in the first half of this year, has decided the route to an them, first of all, to gang up on their closest allies, the French. To the undisguised fury of Paris, the Germans have insisted on putting reform of the CAP, on Bonn's preferred terms, ahead of any other part of the negotiations.

German officials say they are prepared to continue to pay the lion's share of the EU bills but they want guarantees that Germany's £8bn net annual payment - 37 times bigger than France's, four times bigger than Britain's - will gradually be eased. Isolating the French may seem to be a tactical mistake, and so it may prove.

But the Germans believe this is the only way to persuade France, which takes one fifth of all EU farm spending, to accept that it must make genuine

There have been Franco-German quarrels over the years but few that go closer to the heart of the bargain on which the EU, or EEC, was founded (ie that German industry would have free access to French consumers but German taxpayers would subsidise French farmers).

Bonn and Brussels are proposing a reform of the CAP that would be relatively kind to European farmers, kind to consumers and kind to German

Farm support prices for cereals, beef and milk would be slashed (reducing some food prices in the shops); farmers would be partially compensated with direct income payments; national governments would pay up to 25 per cent of the subsidies to their own

The centre-left government in France is prepared seriously to consider a radical reform of the CAP. It has already steered its farm policy away from decades of French obsession with increased productivity, dominated by the interests of large, rich French cereal farms.

proposals because they would force France to pay a much larger part of the subsidies for its own agriculture.

Paris has made a counterproposal, which would be actually tougher on farmers, especially large farmers. But it would also be tougher on consumers and kinder to French

Support prices would not be cut but direct subsidies to farms, especially large farms, would be progressively reduced. Most of the cost of the CAP would still fall on the EU budget: ie largely on the

French officials acknowledge their net payments to Brussels - the difference between what a country pays in and what it receives - are disproportionately low (£200m a year). France has a large farm economy and the EU budget is disproportionately devoted to agriculture. The solution, they say, should be gradually to reduce the cost of the CAP, not to transfer farm spending to national budgets, which might unravel the whole policy.

A huge dispute is inevitable. That is what today's informal summit is for. The real crisis will come if there is no solution when real negotiations begin at a two-day formal summit in Berlin next month.



A French farmer lies wounded in Bordeaux after clashes with police during a protest against the reform of the common agricultural policy

François Guillot/EPA against the reform of the common agricultural policy

### Blair alters tactics to save rebate

By Stephen Castle in Boon

TONY BLAIR is preparing to raise the stakes over the British budget rebate by claiming that countries including France, Italy and Denmark get a better deal than the UK from Brussels and should pay a bigger share of its costs.

The decision to switch tactics comes on the eve of today's oneday summit of leaders in Petersberg near Bonn, called to break the deadlock over financing of the EU, which needs to be reformed before enlargement to the east.

The prime minister who arrived in Germany last night, is prepared to take a tough line if other member states press him over reform or abolition of the rebate, worth around £2bn a year. A British official said: "Mr Blair will point out that many countries, such as France, Italy and Denmark, either pay less or receive more back despite being richer than the UK."

The rebate is one of a series of sensitive issues due to be discussed, including reform of the common agricultural policy, where France and Germany are at odds, the freezing of the EU budget and consequent curbs on spending in poorer regions.

Yesterday there were few signs of a breakthrough in agri-culture as farm ministers spent their fourth consecutive day of talks discussing a new compromise document prepared by Germany, which holds the EU presidency. In Bonn officials have played

down the prospects of significant agreement at today's meeting, aware that on many issues the players will repeat well-known negotiating positions, reserving final negotiations for a second summit in a month's time in Berlin.

Gerhard Schröder, the German Chancellor, has appealed in a pre-summit letter to fellow leaders to keep the expected blood-letting private from the

### **Bosnia braced for Big Mac invasion**

McDONALD'S PLANS 20 restaurants in Bosnia, in another sign that the divided country's fragile peace is continuing to hold and a normality is returning to the former Balkan killing fields.

The Bosnian government said representatives of the US fast-food giant met the Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic, and colleagues to finalise plans. The capital. Sarajevo, would have three of the restaurants, but no time frame was given. Post-war Bosnia consists of

By MARCUS TANNER

two entities, a Muslim-Croat federation and a Serbian republic, but it is not clear whether McDonald's plan restaurants in Serb territory.

Last August, Volkswagen started a joint venture in Bosnia with United Industry Sarajevo (UNIS) to produce cars. Other foreign investors have been reluctant to enter while the political situation

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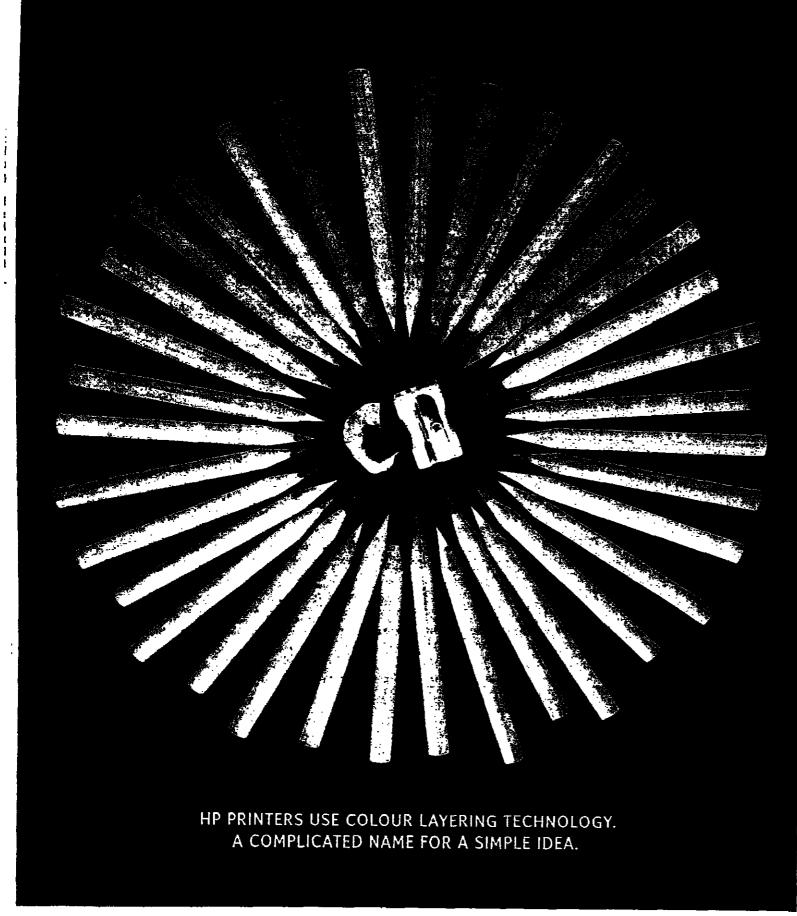
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	£2,000 to £4,999	4.50	3.75	3.00
60 DAY ACCOUNT	£50,000 and over	5.40	4.65	3.72
(Annual Interest Rates)	£25,000 to £49,999	5.00	4.25	3.40
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# Blair Generals lurk dactics behind Nigeria's behind Nigeria's rebate new democracy This is the in Nigeria, I tal, Abuja, away, and away

TIE NEW president of Nigeria, wio is to be elected tomorrow ira process marking a democatic rite of passage for the world's biggest black nation, is spected to be little more than uppet of the military estab-

A retired general and former nead of state, Olusegun Obasanjo, is almost certain to win the vote. A group of powerful politicians defected from his rival, the former finance minister Olu Falae, yesterday, making an Obasanjo victory virtually certain.

Both Obasanjo and Falae are Yorubas, and both were imprisoned during the rule of the late tyrannical dictator, Gen Sani Abacha

Gen Obasanjo became president in 1976 on the assassination of Gen Murtala Mohamed and he ruled Nigeria for three years, giving up power to an elected government in 1979 – the only Nigerian ruler ever to have done so.

Yesterday, in an exclusive interview with The Independent, General Ibrahim Babangida, Nigeria's former dictator from 1985 to 1993 and still the most powerful man in the country, defended the military's behindthe-scenes role. He also denied funding the front-runner in tomorrow's elections

Nigeria's transition programme has been riddled with irregularities since it began with the registration of voters last October.

The election will end 15 years of military rule in a country of some 100 million people, who have enjoyed civilian rule for only 10 of their 39 years of independence from Britain.

Despite public differences between the candidate - played up byall sides along ethnic lines bon candidates are acceptableto the military establishmen. Both have also pledged tion of embezzlement of the country's oil income by the army's top brass.

tlusegun Obasanjo has been carcatured as the candidate of who gained their wealth the northern ruling-class. By cortrast, Mr Falae is portrayed as the underdog, and as the favourite of the underprivileged and populous south-west.

Whoever wins tomorrow will hive to wait until 29 May for the femal handover to civilian rule a three-month delay which

This is the real seat of power in Nigeria, alongside the capital, Abuja, two hours' drive away, and the city of Kaduna, also about two hours away along fine roads.

Abuja is where administrators, both civilian and military, hang out. Kaduna, by tradition, is where they retire to. Since the death last year of Gen Abacha who took power in 1993 after overthrowing the shaky Gen Babangida, a semblance of order has returned to the ranks of the army, and to the country.

In General Abubakar, Babangida has one of his best friends in power. British Airways and Air France have returned to Nigeria, and Royal Dutch Shell has pledged \$8.5bn in investments. Nigeria has also reached an agreement with the IMF that could even tually lead to debt rescheduling and short-term financing to meet an estimated \$1.3bn deficit in 1999.

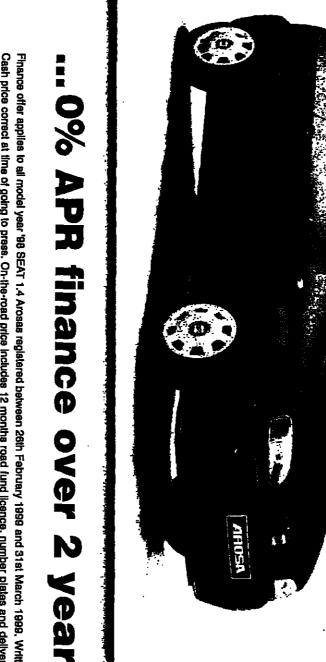
The logo of the German paint and construction company, Julius Berger, is to be seen everywhere, again. Another German company, Strabag, is upgrading stadiums for the Fifa Youth World Cup in April, These are only some of the signs that IBB's influence has returned; a blessed relief from the greed and bad taste of Abacha who was reported to have died with \$60m in his

Gen Babangida says the mil-itary "are looking forward to a democratic Nigeria. They will be willing at all times to subordinate themselves to the constitutive legally elected authority. I am positive of this." He sees his role under the

forthcoming civilian government as that of an elder states man - "somebody who will ensure that things go well for this country, to advise where possible, and to fight for the place of Nigeria as a strong, united democratic country".

Such is Gen Bahangida's inhe is known, wields in Minna fluence that even die hard crit from his two-story mansion ics of military rule in Nigeria are resigning themselves to with two dozen cars and a peathe military-designed transicock in the garden, is a microtion period. cosm of his powerful role in "We are getting a president

who is acceptable to the milidoes Football Club (Patron: tary. We must just hope that we get someone we consider right Mrs Maryam Babangida), the the next time around," said any other citizen of this country. the humbler Abdulsalami Abdul Oroh, director of Nigeria's Civil Liberties Organisation. "After all, we cannot bush-taxis depart. Inside the thick walls of his mansion, expect a good democracy to man than those who have not called IBB Residence, unchous come from a transition designed by the military."



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#### IN BRIEF

#### Alliance chief warns Yugoslavia

A power in the land: General Ibrahim Babangida denies

funding presidential front-runner Olusegun Obasanjo

Gen Abdulsalami Abubakar, as- is the same as that of any pa-

has given to Mr Obasanjo's town where he went to school

tired military is like the role of IBB Specialist Hospital and

campaign, Gen Bahangida said: with Gen Abubakar.

sisted by Gen Babangida.

Asked how much money he

allegations and rumours and in-

In answer to claims that re-

tired members of the military

through corruption are usher-

ing in a friend in civilian clothes,

Babangida said: "I think the

role [in the election] of the re-

They have the same rights as

nuendoes."

Nigerians thrive on

triot of this country," he said at

his home in Minna, the central

The influence that "IBB"

Minna has the Niger Torna-

Abubakar Garage, from which

Nigeria as a whole.

JAVIER SOLANA, Nato's secretary-general, warned Yu-goslavia against launching an offensive in Kosovo. On Wednesday a Nato official said Yugoslavia might be prepar-ing for a final military push to exadicate ethnic Albanian guerrillas before the 15 March deadline for a second round of peace talks. The province was "extremely tense" yesterday and peace monitors had stepped up patrols, a member of the verification mission said.

#### East Timor victims honoured

SEVERAL THOUSAND independence supporters in East Timor marched through the capital, Dili, with the bodies of two activists killed in a clash. Violence between rival groups has escalated in the former Portuguese colony since Indonesia offered last month to consider independence for the territory if the East Timorese reject an au-

#### Genoa plane crash kills four

FOUR PEOPLE were killed when a plane carrying 27 passengers and four crew overshot a runway at Genoa, and plunged into the sea. An official at Cristoforo Colombo airport said the victims were a hostess, two male passengers and an elderly woman who died in hospital. One of the survivors was thought to be in a serious condi-

#### Czechs, Poles on road to Nato

THE POLISH President, Aleksander Kwasniewski, and his Czech counterpart, Vaclav Havel, are to sign accession documents today to allow their countries to join Nato. Mr Kwasniewski will sign in Warsaw, while Mr Havel will do it

#### Harare mayor suspended

ZIMBABWE'S GOVERNMENT suspended the mayor of Harare and 43 councillors for mismanagement of the capital and squandering its income. John Nkomo, Minister for Local Government, said Solomon Tawengwa and all other elected officials were suspended for a minimum 60 days pending investigations. A mansion being built for the mayor had not been properly approved, and during its con-struction city services had deteriorated sharply.

#### 'Aphrodisiac' dog meat seized

POLICE IN the Philippines seized 1,320lb of dog meat in Manila harbour bound for restaurants. It was being passed off as goat meat, and was found in boxes packed with ice. Dog meat, believed to be an aphrodisiac, is a delicacy in specialty shops in Manila, selling for about £1 a pound, which is more expensive than pork.

# Saddam's agents 'murdered cleric' sway BY PATRICK COCKBURN AT 7.30m last Priday, Ayatollah Mohammed Striday, Ayatollah Mohammed Striday, Ayatollah

AT 7.30pm last Friday, Ayatollah Mohammad Sadeq al-Sadr, the popular leader of the Shia Muslims of Iraq, got into his car to drive to his house, as he did every day, from his office on the outskirts of the holy city of Najaf near the Euphrates, southwest of Baghdad. With him were his two sons, Mustapha and Mu'ammal, who acted as his chief assistants, and a driver.

They never reached home. In the first detailed account of the assassination, The Independent has learnt that when the car entered a roundabout, it was hit by machine-gun fire from one or more positions. Within seconds, the gunmen lying in ambush riddled the car with bullets and the men inside were dead or dying. Relatives say ately sealed off the area and would not allow even an ambu-

most certainly the work of agents working for the Iraqi government. Baghdad has always feared the religious leaders of the Iraqi Shia, who make up about 55 per cent of the population, but who for centuries have been denied political power. In the past year, two other prominent Shia clerics have been killed and others at-

that Mr Sadr be buried immediately with a minimum of mourning. But this was not enough to prevent the most widespread popular disturbances in Iraq since the Shia uprising in 1991, in the aftermath of the Gulf War, which almost overthrew President Saddam Hussein.

The scale of the outbreaks



Supporters of Ayatoliah al-Sadr blame not only the United States but also the Iraqi regime for the miseries heaped on its nation's people

past few days as witnesses reach Jordan and Iran.

The outbreaks happened because Mr Sadr, who for six years presided over his community with the tacit approval of the government, had gradually acquired a mass following among Shia youth, townspeople and tribal leaders.

Respected for his piety, he had become open in holding the has become clear only in the regime – as well as the US and

its allies - responsible for the miseries of the Iraqi people. When his death was an-

nounced by the official news agency, demonstrations and clashes erupted throughout southern Iraq, where Shia are in the majority. In Baghdad, worshippers at a mosque in Saddam City, a vast slum, poured into the street, shouting: "God is great". The security

two brothers. Iraqi sources in Iran say 13 people died elsewhere in the city.

Some of the trouble began even before Mr Sadr was killed. In Nassariya, a Euphrates river town, the local governor had arrested the ayatollah's representative, Sheikh Aos al-Khafaji, two days before the assassination, for criticising the government. A local delegation went forces immediately shot dead to the governor to have him re-

leased. When the governor refused, they attacked the city's security headquarters while shopkeepers went on strike. The government sent in heavily armed Republican Guards and declared a curfew. After the

assassination there were more

shouting: "Death to Saddam". The worst violence occurred at a Shia shrine 20 miles from Nassariya. This may have apat protesters immediately.

peared especially threatening to the government, as the were clashes in the Shia cities shrine is close to the marshof Kut and al-Amarah on the lands of southern Iraq, the re-Tigris, close to the Iranian bordoubt of anti-government der. They also report flashes of guerrillas. The security forces artillery fire near al-Basrah, the opened fire on demonstrators, largest city of southern Iraq.

clashes, with demonstrators two 14-year-olds. The death toll elsewhere is not known, but security forces are clearly under orders to fire

killing at least five, including

ducted such a purge, in 1991, about a hundred Shia clerics disappeared without trace. The well-planned purge suggests the assassination of Mr Sadr was only one element in a plan to break his movement. Laith Kubba, an Iraqi commentator living abroad, says: "After Desert Fox [the bombing of Iraq by the US and Britain] in December Saddam decided to eliminate all potential antigovernment leaders in a preemptive strike to head off any uprising. Al-Sadr was the most

visible of the Shia leaders." This is possible, but two se-nior Shia ayatollahs, Mortadha al-Borujerdi and Mirza Ali al-Gharawi, were killed last summer. The latter was machinegunned to death in his car with his stepson and driver in an attack similar to that which killed Ayatollah al-Sadr.

A deeper motive behind Saddam Hussein's decision to kill the Shia leader was probably Mr Sadr's increasingly hostile attitude to the regime and his growing political strength.

The ayatollah had built his strength over six years. He had a loyal corps of several thousand religious students. He appointed representatives in Shia areas. Tribal leaders (mostly Shia but some Sunni) came to him to have their authority confirmed. He appointed his own judges. His criticism of the government became

Three weeks ago, the government's regional overlord asked him to tone down his criticism. He refused, though he must have guessed the likely Iraqi security forces have consequences. In his last seralso been arresting representatives of Ayatollah al-Sadr in mons, he seemed to foresee his fate, saying that when Iraqis Baghdad and in the Shia heartlands of the south. They have heard of his death they should

Jassim Mohammed Iraqis in exile in Iran say there

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ROOMS MWIDE

# cleric'Suit and tie sways voters in new Iran

⟨■ SADEGH SAMII, a clean-shaven aristocrat never without his 4, tie, is the poster child for Pres-'≿ident Mohammed Khatami's

्डः new Iran. Among 300,000 candidates vying for seats in Iran's new city, town and village councils, his smiling face and dyed black hair ্ু stood out in newspaper advertisements and campaign

But when voters go to the polls today, Samii, a businessman and publisher, will arouse electoral passion.

His tie, virtually banned since the Islamic revolution of 1979 as a symbol of the hated West, is now something of a vote-getter among disaffected Tehranis. This small item of clothing alone is evidence that in today's Islamic Republic, politically correct symbolism is a thing of the past.

The range of candidates in the poll, the country's first attempt at grassroots democracy, has taken Iranians by surprise. Samii's tie is pictured on street corners beside bearded revolutionaries, turbanned mullahs, a yuppie in designer eyeglasses and pubescent girls in black shrouds.

"Why shouldn't I wear a tie?" Samii asks, shuffling papers while trying to answer his mo-📭 telephone.

Not a day has passed in 20 years when I didn't wear a tie. My tie is a symbol of education, of technology, of modernity. As a member of the aristocracy, I think the time is right for some-

BY SABINA MONROE

one like me to participate in

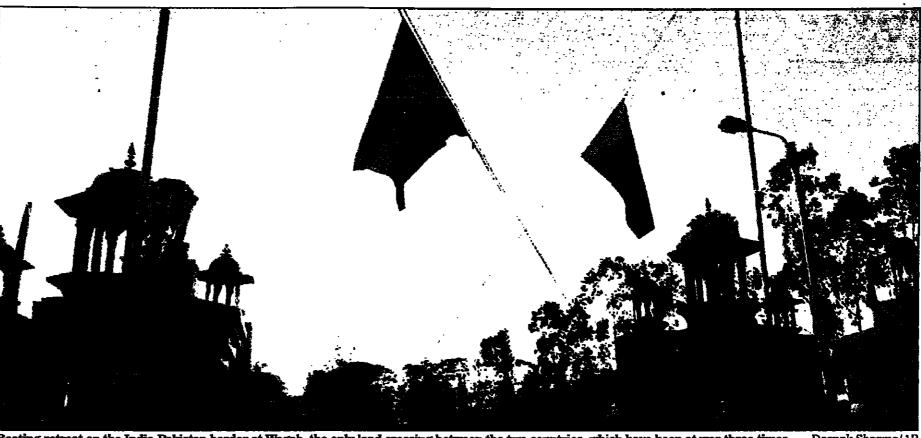
The fact that iconoclasts such as Samii and his yuppie rival are allowed to run at all speaks volumes about the changes in Iran. But the outcome of the poll will test the depth of this new tolerance. If Samii captures only the votes of the secular elite living in Tehran's northern suburbs, his tie will have proved to be little more than a fashion accessory.

If he attracts supporters across the vast class divide from south to north Tehran. then it will be clear that voters accepted the advice President Khatami gave earlier this week

Promoting a desired atmosphere of "Islamic love", as one mullah put it, Mr Khatami declared that even those who reject the regime, the president, and the supreme clerical leader, should enjoy their liberty provided they do not take up arms or engage in other efforts to topple the state. Samii is reluctant to discuss

such philosophical issues. It is probably a wise move. When asked if the principles of the Islamic Revolution were still intact, he said: "A majority of the population now are teenagers, and they can't possibly remember the revolution.

"It was like any other revolution, the French revolution, the Bolshevik revolution. It was simply an historical event."



Beating retreat on the India-Pakistan border at Wagah, the only land crossing between the two countries, which have been at war three times Deepak Sharma/AP

### Soldiers fly their kites of hope at cruel border

ders are those that are purely political; where not even a creek or a contour or a fault in the rocks exists to clothe the nakedness of what the politicians have decreed; where neighbours and families and communities are sliced apart like a knife slicing through living flesh.

Wagah, the only land crossing between India and Pakistan, is one. Last Saturday the Indian Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpäyee, made history when he crossed from the Indian to the Pakistani side to inaugurate the Delhi to Lahore bus service. For the politician, this required imagination, optimism and goodwill. For the bus driver it required about 10 seconds in first gear. The politicians now have much to discuss, but for the driver there

THE WORLD'S cruellest bor- between the two countries is flat, and nine feet wide. There are no rolls of razor wire, no sentries in pillboxes with machine-guns trained. Once the two pairs of wrought iron gates have swung open, you

> The people on each side are farmers of the same fertile soil. As he stepped down from the bus, Mr Vajpayee offered the Pakistani Prime Minister, Nawaz Sharif, a basket of fruit. Prakash Singh Badal, chief minister of (India's) Punjab, gave him some locally grown wheat. Mr Vajpayee also gave Mr Sharif a handful of Indian soil. It came from the nearby village of Jati Umra, where the Sharif family's ancestral home once stood.

For the only land crossing between fratricidal states that have fought three wars, there is nothing to negotiate. The gap is something bizarrely light**FRONTLINE** WAGAH

hearted about Wagah. The vicious action between India and Pakistan takes place elsewhere, along the Line of Control, the long de facto border between the Indian-controlled and Pakistan-controlled parts of Kashmir, or inside Indian Kashmir, where a low-level civil war has been going on for 10 years. On the eve of Mr Vajpayee's visit, for example, 20 Hindus were murdered there, with the obvious intention of blasting the bus out of the

headlines. (They failed.) Wagah, by contrast, is as colourful and unreal as the set of a comic opera. From Lahore you come rattling down the Grand Trunk Road (GTR), which once ran all the way from Afghanistan to Calcutta,

and might, some fancy, one day do so again.

"Welcome to Pakistan, Land of Culture and Adventure" reads the banner at Wagah. "Unity, Faith, Discipline". But the mood is not that of a military camp but more of a holiday resort out of season. There's a burger stand, and beach umbrellas on the lawn outside the state guesthouse. Flags flap on the flagstaffs. Guns are ubiquitous in Pak-

istan. But the Pakistani Rangers and their opposite numbers on the Indian side, though armed to the teeth, epitomise the comic opera mood, sparkling like newly polished apples, ablaze with starched turbans of scarlet and vermilion. None is under

six feet, some may be closer to seven. Every morning and evening, at the ceremonies of reveille and retreat, they stage the most eye-poppingly exaggerated display of square bash-

ing you will ever see, burnished over decades to a pitch of perfection, and watched agog day after day by an appreciative audience. But nothing (except what goes on at Buckingham Palace) could be further from the realities of modern warfare. So hard do they stamp, it is said, they get . a battle during the war of 1971. through a set of leather heels

every week. So flimsy and unreal, the border at Wagah might be dismantled and carted off like a redundant stage set, leaving no residue ... that is the seductive idea which Mr Vajpayee's crossing by bus has helped to

diplomat crossing here looked up and saw two kites fighting in the winter sky, one emblazoned with the Pakistani flag, one

with the Indian. The Pakistani commanding officer at the post told him the story behind them. The two soldiers controlling the kites had played together near here as children, pre-Partition. Then their families were separated by the border, they joined their nations' respective armies, and took part on opposite sides in

After that they once again made contact; and each winter. both posted at Wagah, floated and fought their kites.

If India and Pakistan must fight again, let it be not with nuclear tipped missiles but with kites: that was the mood at Wagah on this extraordinary

PETER POPHAM

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# BUSINESS

#### **BRIEFING**

SmithKline could hand back £5bn SMITHKLINE BEECHAM yesterday raised the prospect of a huge return of cash to investors with plans to seek shareholder approval to buy back almost £5bn worth of shares. The drug giant said that it would ask its next shareholders' meeting at the end of April for permission to purchase up to 10 per cent of its own stock.

The company said that it had no immediate plans for its first-ever share buyback. However, it added that the move would give it "greater flexibility" in spending surplus cash, which is set to be boosted by asset sales and growing drug sales. During 1999, SB will receive around \$2bn in cash and shares from the sale of two US businesses.

#### Tottenham to pass dividend



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR is planning to pass its dividend this year as the Premier League football club attempts to maintain its financial position while investing in the club. Alan Sugar, chairman (pictured), said yesterday the company could not justify paying a dividend to shareholders given the need to develop the club's White Hart Lane stadium and extend its

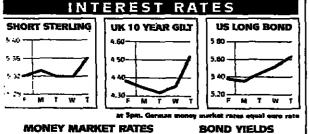
training facilities. Mr Sugar, who owns 40.5 per cent of Tottenham, will personally miss out on £237,000 as a

#### LVMH sues Gucci over shares

LVMH, the French luxury goods group, has filed a lawsuit against Gucci after its Italian rival used an employee share option scheme to block LVMH's 34 per cent stake. Launching the action in Amsterdam, where Gucci has its primary listing, LVMH said: "Gucci appears intent on using legal trickery as a substitute for sound business practice and shareholder democracy." LVMH has filed documents requesting the court to order the extra shares to be deprived of their voting rights and for an investigation into Gucci's management policies.

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FTSE 350	2934.30	-40.10	-1.35	2978.30	2210.40	2.69						
FTSE All Share	2834.90	<u>-36,</u> 71	<u>-1,28</u>	2886.52	2143.53	2.73						
FTSE SmallCap	2271.30	2.80	0.12	2793.80	1834.40	3.56						
FTSE Fledgling	1240.50	1.60	0.13	1517.10	1046.20	4.46						
TSE AIM	821.20	-3,70	-0.45	1146.90	<u>76</u> 1.30	1.16						
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Hang Seng	9658.07	-19.50	-0.20	11926.16	6544.79	3.65						
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Nasdaq	2296.43	<u>-42.28</u>	-1.81	25 <u>33,</u> 44	1357.09	0.28						
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Belgium (francs)	56.94	New Zealand (S)	2.8951
Canada (\$)	2.3376	Norway (kroner)	12.30
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8147	Portugal (escudos)	281.36
Denmark (kroner)	10.54	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.8299
Finland (markka)	8.4089	Singapore (\$)	2.6158
France (francs)	9.2460	South Africa (rands)	9.5445
Germany (marks)	2.7682	Spain (pesetas)	234.33
Greece (drachma)	456.20	Sweden (kronor)	12,73
Hong Kong (S)	12.03	Switzerland (francs)	2.2554
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Source: Thomas Cook

# CBS chief wants television merger with NBC

THE PROSPECT of a huge BY ANDREW MARSHALL merger that would reshape America's television industry was raised yesterday as the chairman of CBS, the largest TV network, said that he wanted to buy its rival NBC. Though the deal raises huge issues of competition and finance, it intrigued the market.

His comments came as CBS's owner, Westinghouse. completes a corporate makeover. "If Exxon and Mobil can combine, then why can't I

in Washington

buy NBC?" said Mel Karmazin, speaking at the American Association of Advertising Agen-Seinfeld, its top-rated show, and the National Football League, which is now televised by CBS.

Several of the television networks have been lobbying the Federal Communications Commission to repeal regulations that prevent networks from tak-

ing each other over Mr Kar- its current owner he said. mazin has made a number of comments recently about wanting to take over another network, and expanded on his thoughts yesterday after comments from cies. NBC has recently lost an executive of Saatchi and Saatchi that media consolidation

would hurt advertisers. It was highly unlikely that Disney would sell ABC, Mr Karmazin said, and nor would he expect Rupert Murdoch to sell Fox. But NBC was not a good fit with General Electric,

GE responded swiftly that it was a "perfect fit". Its chief executive, Jack Welch, has said that NBC is worth up to \$20bn, but Mr Karmazin said he would be prepared to "overpay" for the network, as he did for the

rights to televise football. That gamble paid off, bringing in new viewers and winning market share. There has already been speculation that NBC would be spun into a new

shocked the market, which was unsure how seriously to take tion for shooting from the hip since he took over at CBS. The company is owned by Westinghouse, which last year sold its remaining nuclear energy business to British Nuclear Fuels. completing its transition to a

media company. It would be in line with recent trends in the US for vast ternet, setting up a new submergers, however, and for sidiary called CBS-plus.

Mr Karmazin's comments rapid consolidation in the media business as networks, telecommunications and cable them. He has gained a reputaput together new configurations. Competition for the networks no longer just comes from each other, but from a wide variety of sources, and they are also dipping their toes into new media.

Mr Karmazin also said that CBS would move into the In-

# Telecoms share sales knock Colt and Orange

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

THE RECENT jump in the value of telecommunications stocks was underlined again yesterday as one aggressive new operator took advantage of its soaring share price to tap the stock market for funds while another saw its major shareholder offload a large chunk of shares. Colt Telecom, the fast-grow-

ing start-up company which is building high-speed local telecom networks in cities around Europe, announced plans to raise another £500m to fund the construction of a long-distance telecom network and allow Colt to expand its Internet services to large companies. The move comes just eight months after Colt tapped the market for £600m of new capital.

Meanwhile, Hutchison

Whampoa, the Far Eastern group, sold a 4.2 per cent stake in Orange, reducing its shareholding in the mobile phone operator to 44.8 per cent. However, Hutchison under-

lined its long-term commitment to Orange by stressing that the operator would be its main investment in telecommunications in Europe. "We are long-term shareholding in Orange at this level," said Canning Fok, Hutchison's managing di-Shares in Colt lost over 10 per

cent of their value, dropping 131p to 1145.5p, on news of its plans, which analysts described as opportunistic. "Colt has always been a local infrastructure player." said Jim McCafferty, telecoms analyst at SG Securities. "So what are they doing building a long-distance network?"



Hans Snook, chief executive of Orange, announcing yesterday 1998 operating profits of £15m and revenues up 33 per cent at £1.21bn in what he called the mobile phone industry's 'best year yet'

Colt's chief executive, defended the move. "Our customers are telling us that they want seamless end-to-end services from Colt across Europe with the same levels of quality and reliability that we provide over our

local city networks," he said. Shares in Colt, which is 58 per cent owned by Fidelity, the US fund manager, have trebled since October, helped by its entry into the FTSE 100 index. Yesterday Colt said that the

ver, Paul Chisholm, cost of building local city net- ever operating profit of £15m on lowing Orange to launch its losses for the year to last December to £55.6m from £32.5m. Revenues more than doubled to

Hutchison's shares were sold at an average price of 865p each, raising approximately £430m for the group. The move knocked Orange shares 51.5p to 907p, even though the company yesterday posted a buoyant set of full-year results which showed Orange making its first sell it a large block of airtime, al-

managing director, said that the mobile phone industry had had its "best year yet" in 1998 and that, on current trends, market penetration of mobiles in the UK was likely to reach 50 per cent by the end of 2002.

Orange is also confident that it will this year be able to persuade one of the network operators in France or Germany to

works had increased its pre-tax revenues up 33 per cent at own service for customers while £1.21bn. Hans Snook, Orange's using a rival network. Mr Snook said becoming a "virtual network operator" would allow Orange to extend its reach to a larger customer base in Europe.

Orange is also planning to offer high-speed data on its network by the end of the year, and will also offer Wildfire, a virtual personal assistant that operates on voice-recognition technology, to its customers.

Outlook, page 21

### Company law to | Lasmo continues alliance be overhauled

PROPOSALS FOR a fundamental overhaul in company law, designed to reduce the burden of legislation on small and medium sized firms, were published

yesterday by the Government. Under the proposals, produced by a Department of Trade and Industry steering group, the framework of company law would be altered so that small firms would only have to comply with a basic set of legislation.

Only as firms got bigger would they have to comply with more regulation relating to areas such as corporate governance, accounting, reporting and disclosure requirements.

The present framework, which dates back 150 years, imposes blanket legal requirements on all companies which smaller firms then have to seek exemption from

By MICHAEL HARRISON

Welcoming publication of the report, Stephen Byers, the Sec-retary of State for Trade and Industry, said that UK company law had developed around the requirements of large public companies and yet of the 1.3m registered companies, only 12,000 were plcs and of these only 2,450 were quoted.

The steering group also asked for views on whether companies should be forced to represent "stakeholder" interests on their boards or whether an "enlightened shareholder value" approach is sufficient

However, the steering group's final report is not due until 2001, meaning there will not be any change in legislation

# talks as losses hit £408m

exploration group, yesterday disclosed that it is in strategic alliance talks with several other operators apart from Enterprise Oil as it plunged to a £408m loss for last year.

The huge loss was caused by a £360m exceptional writedown in the value of its fields because of the collapse in oil prices. There was a further £34m charge to cover a halving of its head office staff in Lon-

The exploration budget for this year has also been halved to £55m and Lasmo is warning that it will suffer another operating loss unless oil prices recover to \$12 a barrel - something many commentators and oil majors such as Shell believe

Joe Darby, the chief execu-

LASMO, the beleagurered oil BY MICHAEL HARRISON **Business Editor** 

> tive of Lasmo, said that "constructive discussions" were continuing with Enterprise about a possible merger, after it had been thought that the

talks had failed completely. But he said other options were also being examined to secure the company's future. These include talks on everything from alliances in individual fields to full blown mergers. Lasmo executives

Lasmo made a loss before write-downs of £48m last year, compared with a £48m profit in 1997. The average oil price for 1998 was \$12.75 against the \$15 Lasmo needed to break

Despite the losses, the

group is maintaining the dividend for the year at 2.3p and is putting its faith in the low cost fields it is developing and a cost reduction plan targetted at achieving savings of £30m a

Lasmo's high-cost mature fields in the North Sea and Indonesia, which currently account for 90 per cent of production, will be run down over the next three years and replaced by production from low-cost fields in Venezuela, Pakistan, Libya and Algeria, which will be profitable at \$5 to \$10 a barrel. By 2002, around half of Lasmo's production will be from these four areas.

In the meantime, Lasmo is aiming to be cash neutral this year, keeping its net debt at 2672m - the same level as it ended last year.

### **CBI** warns growth will slow

By Lea Paterson

THE CONFEDERATION OF British Industry yesterday warned that growth would grind to a halt this year, despite tentative signs of improvement in the UK's struggling manufacturing sector.

The FTSE retreated from Wednesday's record high, closing down 101.1 points at 6,206.5, amid jitters about the outlook for both the domestic and the international economy.

The Dow Jones index fell for the second successive day with investors fearful of a rise in US interest rates, and the CBI warned that further shocks to the world economy could push the UK into recession. The CBI yesterday cut its 1999 growth forecast to 0.5 per cent, substantially below the Government's 1 to 1.5 per cent forecast.

Kate Barker, CBI chief economic adviser, said: "Although we expect the economy to hit a standstill in the first half of 1999, this should be short-lived."

As long as the Bank of England keeps cutting interest rates and there are no more nasty upsets in the international economy, growth in the UK will bounce back towards the end of the year, the CBI said.

Ms Barker, who urged the Bank of England to cut interest rates by a further 0.5 percentage points over the next few months, predicted growth should average 1.8 per cent by 2000.

The CBI's latest monthly industrial trends survey, released alongside the economic forecasts yesterday, found fresh evidence that the UK manufacturing sector could be on the road to recovery. Manufacturers' order books are showing signs of improvement, according to the CBI, and output optimism is continuing to pick up.

Around 45 per cent of companies said order books were below normal in February compared to 10 per cent which said they were above normal. This gives a net balance of minus 35 per cent, compared with minus 43 per cent in January and

minus 38 per cent in December Ken Wattret at Paribas said: "We may be past the bottom. The headline increase in orders was quite encouraging."

However, conditions are likely to remain tough in manufacturing for many months, the CBI warned. Economists said it would take several months for improvements in confidence to be translated into increases in manufacturing output.

Sudhir Junankar, CBI associate director of economic analysis, said: "Manufacturers expect the recession in their sector to continue in the next few months. But the downturn may not be as sharp as they once feared."

#### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

#### LONDON

FOOTSIE'S THREE-DAY winning streak ended as a blue chips retreat left the index nursing a 101.1 points fall to 6,206.5. In heavy trading two-thirds of Wednesday's sharp advance was lost. Supporting shares remained in positive territory but their progress was modest.

Asda was one of the best performers with a 3.88 per cent recovery to 154p. Railtrack rebounded 49p to 1.475p after forecasting 3 per cent passenger growth, producing £4.6bn a year. Derek Pain, page 25

#### NEW YORK

STOCKS WERE sharply lower yesterday afternoon, amid fears of an increase in US interest rates. The Dow Jones was down 158.35 points at 9,241.32 following comments from Alan Greenspan,

US Federal Reserve chairman, which hinted at tighter monetary

investors were switching from stocks to bonds, analysts said, tempted by bond yields at sixmonth highs. Yields on 30-year US bonds have risen 28 basis points since Mr Greenspan's Humphrey

#### ● |TOKYO

JAPANESE STOCKS closed modestly higher, with sentiment boosted by a series of high-profile corporate restructures. The Nikkei average ended up 115 points, or 0.8 per cent, at 14,470.45.

Haseko Corp, a construction company, was among the heaviesttraded stocks, ending 18 per cent higher after announcing details of a restructuring. Sakura Bank finished up 4 per cent after it said it would cut its workforce by 4,200. "The market is increasingly evaluating positively issues involved in mergers and restructuring," said one analyst.

#### SAO PAULO

BRAZILIAN STOCKS tumbled yesterday amid renewed fears about the stability of the currency. The Bovespa index was trading down 140.8 points at 8812.38 by early afternoon.

The third day of central bank intervention in the foreign exchange market did little to ease pressure on the Brazilian real, which was trading at around 2.03 to the dollar. "I think the central bank is just showing its presence on the market rather than trying to make a forced recovery of the real," one trader said.

#### MILAN

THE MILAN bourse followed other European exchanges downwards, with the takeover battle between Telecom Italia and its rival Olivetti providing the main trading focus. Olivetti, Italy's number two telecoms company, refiled its \$58bn offer for its larger rival Telecom Italia, a move designed to prevent Telecom Italia from taking

Shares in Olivetti and Telecom Italia ended down 7 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. The Milan Mib 30 index ended 1,003 points lower at 35,010.

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#### THE INDEPENDENT Friday 26 February 1999

# Calling the top of the telecom market

WHAT WOULD the City do without telecom companies? In a market where Unilever decides to hand back £5bn to its shareholders, and even a gilt-edged growth stock such as Smithkline Beecham apparently decides it has more cash than it knows what to do with, fund managers are struggling to spend the mounds of cash flowing into their coffers.

So they must have breathed a collective sigh of relief yesterday when two telecom operators decided it was time to raise some

Colt, the brash telecom operator whose share price has trebled since October and has yet to make a penny of profit, wants another £500m of spending money even though it hasn't made yet made much of a dent in the £600m it raised last July.

**CBI** 

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And Hutchison Whampoa, the Far Eastern group, decided to offload a 5 per cent stake in Orange, the mobile phone operator whose share price performance has been



OUTLOOK

only slightly less spectacular than Colt's, raising a cool £430m.

While the likes of William Hill have to call off their flotations due to lack of investor interest, fund managers can't get enough of the telecoms sector. This is partly due to technical factors, as both Colt and Orange have large corporate shareholders, which means that tracker funds drive up the price in order to get the weightings they

But the market also seems truly

convinced that the blue-sky growth potential in telecommunications will justify almost valuation. Colt. for example, is worth £7bn even though the total capital invested in the company - including yesterday's fresh injection of funds amounts to no more than £1.5bn.

As long as investors are happy with these ratings, telecom operators would be mad not to raise as much cash as they can. But let's hope that, in their eagerness to find a home for their spare cash, fund managers don't end up throwing bad money after good.

Yesterday's cash call from Colt, and Hutchison's decision to reduce its shareholding in Orange, may just indicate, at last, the top of the market for a mightily hyped

#### Kvaerner Govan

SO YOU thought New Labour was business-friendly, modern, free market-orientated and pro-com-

petition - that it believes in the power of competition to deliver the best possible economic benefit for all, and that it would construct public policy to that end. Think again, When it comes to votes, this now not so new Government seems as prone to its old Labour ways as

Largely unnoticed, the Ministry of Defence earlier this week published a gem of an announcement, telling us that the Kvaerner Group has been shortlisted to build six RoRo ferries. If successful, the press release adds helpfully, they would be constructed at Govan on the Clyde.

But there's more. George Robertson, the Defence Secretary (and Scottish MP) intends to award the order before the Norwegian owners of Govan have finished reviewing whether to close

"We hope they [Govan] will produce a convincing and competitive bid, and we aim to choose the preferred bidder by the autumn of this

year," Mr Robertson adds helpfully. If this doesn't amount to the strongest possible hint that Kvaerner has actually got the order, even though the formal tender process has yet to take place. the Government could have fooled every other yard desperately seeking this scarce work. Nothing, you understand, to do with the imminent Scottish Assembly elections.

Och noo.

Strangely, there has been not a murmur of protest about this blatant piece of gerrymandering, either from the Scottish Nationalists, or indeed the Scottish Tories and Liberal Democrats. An embarrassed conspiracy of silence reigns supreme.

Because this is a defence order. the Government is immune from European rules which require a fair and proper competitive tender for the work.

No one can begrudge the Govan workers their jobs, and if this decision throws them a lifeline, good that preaches business competition on the one hand and hands out business favours on the other can hardly be surprised if it is accused of hypocrisy.

#### Rail summit

RAIL SUMMITS come along these days more often than commuter trains. The station master presiding over yesterday's gathering of railway buffs was no less a figure than Tony Blair.

Flanked by the John Prescott Express and the Government's new Rail Enforcer, Sir Alastair Morton, the Prime Minister told the assembled train operators they were on trial. Mr Prescott, who spent most of his former life at sea, naturally opted for a nautical analogy. "If you don't shape up, you can ship out."

The paradox of rail privatisation is that while train travel is up -1,000 extra services and 14 per cent luck to them. But a Government more passengers - punctuality

Video

**Phone** 

and reliability are down. Mr Blair has now offered the train operators a ticket to renew their franchises early if they can pass six tests designed to improve the passengers' lot. The former Eurotunnel chairman will be in charge of extracting those guarantees.

But all the parties know that the only true answer to the railways' malaise is more investment to end the vicious spiral whereby every 1 per cent increase in train frequency leads to a 2.5 per cent increase in delays.

The Fat Controller, Sir Bob Horton of Railtrack, is already spending £17bn and stands ready to put up more but only if his shareholders are allowed to earn a decent re-

Since no one other than Railtrack has the will, credit rating or incentive to fund the required programme. Sir Bob looks to be in command of the footplate. But doubtless it will take several more rail summits for the politicians to arrive at the same destination.

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News Analysis: Saudi cash boosts BAe despite European losses



Sir Richard Evans (left) and John Weston announcing a 17 per cent rise in BAe's profits yesterday Tom Craig

# Airbus conversion set for slow take-off

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE, the Euro- By MICHAEL HARRISON pean aircraft maker, lost £125m Business Editor in 1998 and will not meet its target of converting into a fully commercial company before the end of this year, British Aerospace said yesterday.

unveiled a 17 per cent increase in profits last year to £708m and said that Saudi Arabia has made a cash payment of around £1bn in January to make up for the shortfall in oil revenues from the Al Yamamah arms deal.

BAe, which has a 20 per cent stake in Airbus, said its share of the consortium's operating losses for last year was £25m. The losses were caused by pricing pressures on smaller singleaisle aircraft, which made up the bulk of Airbus' 229 deliveries last

HISH

The goal of BAe and its three other Airbus partners, DaimlerBenz Aerospace, Aerospastiale and Casa of Spain, had been to transform Airbus into a single corporate entity by mid-1999. This would pave the way for the \$11bn launch of the new 500seater super jumbo, the Airbus ASXX, and the eventual flotation

But Mike Turner, the director of commercial aircraft at BAe, said: "I would be very surprised if there was a single corporate

entity this year." But conversion is unlikely before spring 2000 because of wrangles over the valuation of the four partners' Airbus assets. The French partner, Aerospatiale, also slowed progress in protest at plans by BAe to merge with another Airbus partner,

Daimler Benz Aerospace. BAe, which makes the wings for Airbus aircraft, insisted that its £25m loss was "entirely cosmetic" since it is Airbus, not the individual partners, which takes

all the risks on price. BAe receives a fixed sum for its workshare which means the more efficient it becomes, the more profit Airbus generates. Last year, BAe's underlying profits from Airbus are estimated to have been in the order of £200m but this was offset by £141m in launch aid repayments to the British government on the A320 and A330-A340 programmes.

rise to £179m this year but will fall significantly in 2000, which should produce a big improve-The disclosure came as BAe ment in financial performance of Airbus for BAe.

The £1bn cash payment from the Saudis came too late for inclusion in BAe's figures, resulting in it reporting an £839m operating cash outflow for the year. For the first time BAe has produced figures showing the Al Yamamah deal, first signed in 1986, contributes £3bn towards its current order book of £28bn.

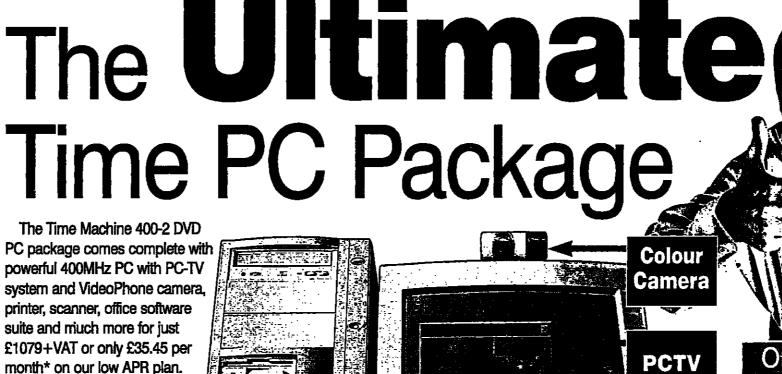
BAe has now completed delivery of the 120 Tornado aircraft and Hawk trainer jets to the Saudis under Al Yamamah. This means that the Saudis oil offtake. which is used to pay BAe, has fallen from 600,000 barrels to 400,000 barrels. But BAe continues to earn revenues of about £2bn a year from service support and training for the Saudi airforce. It has 5,500 staff based in the kingdom and the contract

has a further 25 years to run. John Weston, BAe's chief executive, said that further equip-ment orders from the Saudis were unlikely given the low oil price. But he said ongoing revenues from the deal were in line with BAe forecasts.

Mr Weston also held out the prospect of alliances with other European defence manufacturers and an eventual transatlantic tie-up once BAe's £7.7bn takeover of GEC's Marconi defence electronics division goes

BAe is confident the main aspects of the deal will be vetted in London, not Brussels, but Sir Dick Evans, chairman, said there was still a 50:50 chance of it being referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

BAe executives have warned the Government that if the deal is blocked, Marconi could fall into the hands of Lockheed Martin of the US. This could undermine moves to create a single European Aerospace and Defence Company and push BAe into an alliance with Boeing in which the US defence giant was the senior



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# Legal & General shares plummet as price war erodes profit margins

BY ANDREW VERITY

'SHARES IN Legal & General plummeted 10 per cent yesterday as the market absorbed the full impact of its aggressive stance in the price war for savings and pensions.

L&G's share price fell 109.5p to 798p as the market learned of a sharp fall in profit margins during 1998 due to its strategy of slashing customer charges.

David Prosser, the chief executive, has made swinging cuts to charges on pensions and Personal Equity Plan in the past two years, offering PEPs tracking the FTSE 100 index for as little as 0.5 per cent a year half the usual amount.

The cuts have led to a boom in new business for L&G. Last month, shares rose to a new peak of more than 900p as it reported a 21 per cent jump in new susiness during 1998. But the Smarket failed to anticipate a fall in profit margins, which shrank from 15 per cent to 11 per cent because of the lower charges.

Confidence was further eroded yesterday by a series of heavy one-off costs revealed in its full-year results. They included a big investment in new computer systems and higher provisions for the future owing to lower interest rates. The company is also facing a pension mis-selling bill approaching

In spite of a 13 per cent rise in profits to £369m, the one-off costs prompted some analysts to downgrade their recommendations. James Pearce, of Fox-long-term strategy. L&G was po-



David Prosser, chief executive of L&G: 'One has to operate on lower margins to get the better volumes'

Pitt Kelton, the financial adviser, said the stock was overvalued

even after a 10 per cent fall. Mr Prosser said the results should be seen as part of a

sitioning itself as a volume provider, allowing it to take advantage of government demands for cheaper financial

"The margins are down but

we have always said that it was our strategy to offer a good deal to the customer. And one has to accept that means one has to operate on lower margins to get the better volumes."

L&G has spent the last three years ditching its image as a lumbering insurance giant, instead aiming to be cheaper than its life insurance rivals. The

company has already launched two pension schemes that fit the Government's blueprint for "stakeholder pensions" – lowcost pensions aimed at workers with no retirement savings.

It will also offer low-cost Individual Savings Accounts, the tax-efficient savings vehicle that will replace PEPs and

While observers were taken aback by the figures, most endorsed Mr Prosser's low-cost

One analyst said: "They are positioning themselves very effectively for future trends. It is difficult in the short term and it will take time. But, in a few years, they will be one of the few with the attributes for success."

#### IN BRIEF

#### Arjo sounds a cautious note after 2.2 per cent slip in profits

ARJO WIGGINS APPLETON, the paper group which announced a major restructuring last month, has reported a small decline in 1998 profits and issued a cautious statement about prospects this year. "The board does not expect any significant improvement in the level of buoyancy of the markets we serve," the chairman, Ken Minton, said. The group reported a 2.2 per cent decline in pre-tax profits for the year to 31 December 1998, to £211m on turnover of £3.32bn. It proposed a final dividend of 5.4p per share, making a total of 8.5p, up 6 per cent from the previous year. The shares, which hit 257p last May, closed down 2p at 112p.

#### Midshires chief in 10p tax plea

THE CHANCELLOR should introduce a new 10p income tax band and also cut the tax rate on interest from savings from 30 per cent to 10 per cent in the Budget next month, to help offset the impact of falling interest rates on savers' incomes, Ian Kerr, chief executive of the Birmingham Midshires, said. "Cutting savings tax for basic rate taxpayers is likely to cost the Treasury £1bn a year but this cost could be offset by the predicted reductions to mortgage interest tax relief."

#### Lex profits up 15 per cent

LEX SERVICE GROUP, the motor dealer turned vehicle service and fleet management business, grew profits by 15 per cent to £73.1m last year, bringing the increase over the last three years to 73 per cent. Lex Business Services division now generates two-thirds of group profit, while the contribution from retailing has actually decreased slightly and is now down to 12 per cent of profits from 40 per cent three years ago. Big new contracts for fleet management are in the offing and the used car market where older cars are sold has picked up in recent weeks, the chief executive Andrew Harrison said. The shares rose 4p to 394.5p.

#### Lender looks to Latin America

PROVIDENT FINANCIAL, the home credit company, yesterday said it is actively considering an expansion into Latin America. The small loans group, which reported full-year profits up 7 per cent to £145.9m, has already launched operations in Czechoslovakia and Poland supplying loans to low income families.

#### **Williams' \$120m Asian expansion**

WILLIAMS, the security and building products group, has agreed to pay Hong Kong-listed First Pacific \$120m for its security and fire protection firm, FPD Guardforce. Guardforce, and its secondary brands Guardair, Guardfire and Easilink, was an excellent strategic fit, Williams said. expanding and complementing existing Williams business through its Chubb, Kidde and Yale brands in Japan, South East Asia and New Zealand.

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With effective from 1st March 1999 lending interest rates have been decreased as follows:

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Of up to 320 million Ordinary Shares at £1 each and 160 million nominal value of Floating Rate Notes in units of £1

Sponsored by Warburg Dillon Read.

Details of the Proposals are contained in the Prospectus dated 25 February 1999, which has been approved by the London Stock Exchange as a Prospectus relating to the Company. The Prospectus contains an application form for the offer for subscription. All of those Ordinary Shares and Floating Rate Notes not issued pursuant to the Offer will be available under the offer for subscription. The Prospectus has been published and copies may be obtained free of charge during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and Public Holidays excepted) from the date of this notice up to and including 24 March 1999 from:

> Warburg Dillon Read 2 Finsbury Avenue London EC2M 2PP

Mercury Asset Management Ltd . 33 King William Street London EC4R 9AS

Copies of the Prospectus are also available to the public for inspection at the Company Announcements Office, the London Stock Exchange, Stock Exchange Tower, Capel Court Entrance, off Bartholomew Lane, London EC2N 1HP during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and Public Holidays excepted) from the date of this notice up to and

Warburg Dillon Read, a division of UBS AG ("Warburg Dillon Read"), which is regulated by the Securities and Futures Authority Limited, is acting for the Company and no one else in relation to the issue and will not be responsible to anyone other than the Company for

providing advice in relation to the contents of the Prospectus or any matters. 26 February 1999

### Insurer gives up on door-to-door

UNITED ASSURANCE, the mass market insurer, yesterday said it was ditching its 150-year tradition of collecting premiums door-to-door in a move that could spell the end of the old-

United, which is under pressure from shareholders to cut costs, said it would no longer sell policies where premiums are collected by monthly visits to the customer's home. Alan Frost, chief executive, said job losses would be necessary but refused to say how many.

The move follows similar decisions in the last four years by the Prudential and Pearl amid complaints that high selling costs made the practice uneconomic. Britannic Assurance is the only large insurer to continue the practice.

By Andrew Verity

United's management is under pressure to cut costs from shareholders following the disastrous merger between which gave birth to United Assurance two years ago.

While a third of the sales force has been cut, no savings have materialised, sales have slumped and the shares have underperformed the sector by 40 per cent. Full-year profits announced

yesterday were down from £226m to £193m and the shares fell 3 per cent to 543.5p. Alan Frost, United's chief executive, said: "This is a massive

change to the organisation and it's positive for the sales force. But it's an enormous jolt."

#### JazzFM deal with CCI raises £3.6m

GOLDEN ROSE, the owner of able it to move from compilation JazzFM, has linked up with US records into recording original media company Clear Channel artists, and fund applications for International (CCI) in a deal that will give CCI a 33 per cent stake in the fledgling commercial located over the next two years. radio company and raise up to

sales and marketing costs by up to £1.5m a year, enough to put to existing shareholders and the company into the black. will be underwritten by CCI, Golden Rose announced yes- raising its stake without trigterday a pre-tax loss of £1.5m in gering a requirement to bid. the year to 30 September, up

of current activities. It will en- shares rose 1.5p to 57p.

up to eight more UK jazz radio

Golden Rose is offering 8m 23.6m net of expenses to pay off new shares at 50p each, of which debts, writes Clifford German. CCI will take up 6m giving it 27 It will also cut Golden Rose's per cent of the increased equity. The remainder will be offered

Golden Rose's advertising from £1m in the previous year. sales force will move into CCPs
The cash will also help exadvertising subsidiary More pand Golden Rose's record Group, which will take over all label, which accounts for a fifth sales and promotion costs. The

### **DUNFERMLINE**

New Borrower's Interest Rate

Dunfermline Building Society's variable rate for new mortgages for owner-occupiers is now 6.80%. Rates for other types of lending are available on request.

**Notice to Existing Borrowers** From 1 March 1999, the Society's variable rates of interest for existing borrowers will be reduced by 0.25% pa gross. For

the rate charged after the fixed rate period. Borrowers on the budget repayment scheme are not required to take any action and individual notices will be issued to borrowers outwith the scheme.

borrowers with fixed rate mortgages, this change will affect

This advertisement is issued in accordance with the listing rules of the London Stock Exchange Limited (the "London Stock Exchange"). Application has been made to the London Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Shares to be admitted to the Official List. It is emphasised that this advertisement does not constitute an offer or invitation to any person to subscribe for Shares in BGI Endowment Fund III Limited. It is expected that dealings in the Shares will commence on Monday 22 March 1999.

#### **BGI ENDOWMENT** FUND III LIMITED

(Incorporated with limited liability in Jersey with registered number 73519) Placing and Offer for Subscription sponsored by Credit Suisse First Boston de Zoete & Bevan Limited of up to 30,000,000 Redeemable Ordinary Shares of 1p each ("Shares") at an issue price of 100p per share payable in full on application.

> 7,199,000 Shares are the subject of a Placing. The balance of 22,801,000 Shares are being offered for subscription by the public.

The Prospectus which has been published and dated 25 February 1999 contains details of procedures for application together with an application form. Copies of the Prospectus are available for inspection only during normal office hours from 26 February 1999 at the Company Announcement Office, the London Stock Exchange, Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HP.

In addition, copies of the Prospectus are available for collection during normal business hours (9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday) up to and including 12 March 1999 from any of the following:

BGI Endowment Fund III Limited La Motte Chambers St Helier, Jersey JE1 1B]

IRG plc 23 Ironmonger Lane

Credit Suisse First Boston de Zoete & Bevan Limited One Cabot Square London E14 4QJ

To order a copy of the mini-prospectus call Freephone 0800 448860.

26 February 1999

#### Recommended Cash Offer by THE BRITISH LINEN BANK LIMITED on behalf of

ARCRENT PROPERTIES LIMITED to acquire the whole of the issued and to be issued share capital of PEMBERSTONE PLC

The British Linen Bank Limited ("British Linen Bank") announces on behalf of Arcrent Properties Limited ("Arcrent") that, by means of an offer document dated 24 February 1999 (the "Offer Document") and by means of this advertisement, British Linen Bank is triaking a recommended cash offer (the "Offer") on behalf of Arcrent to acquire the entire issued and to be issued ordinary share capital of Pembersione PLC ("Pembersione"). Terms defined in the Offer Document have the same meanings in this advertisement.

Subject to the Offer becoming or being declared wholly unconditional on the terms set out in the Offer Document, each erstone Shareholder who validly accepts the Offer will receive 63 pence in cash for each Pemberstone Share. The full terms and conditions of the Offer (including details of how the Offer may be accepted) are set out in the Offer Document and the Form of Acceptance. This advertisement alone does not constitute and trust not be constitued as an offer. Pemberstone Shareholders who accept the Offer may rely only on the Offer Document and the Form of Acceptance

The Offer is, by means of this advertisement, being extended to all persons to whom the Offer Document may not be despatched who hold, or who are entitled to have allotted or issued to them Pemberstone Shares. Such persons are informed that copies of the Offer Document and the Form of Acceptance are available for collection, during normal business hours, from the office of New Issues Department, IRG plc, Bourne House, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham

Kent BR3 4TH and British Linen Bank, 8 Frederick's Place, London EC2R 8HY.

The Offer, which is being made by means of the Offer Document and this advertisement, will be open for acceptance until 3,00 pm on 17 March 1999 (or, subject to the provisions of the City Code, such later time(s) and/or date(s) as Arcrent may decide), The Offer is not being made, directly or indirectly, in or into, or by use of the mails of the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan or by any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or, or any facilities of a national securities exchange in the United States, Canada, Australia or Japan (including without limitation, facsimile transmission, telex and telephone) and will not be capable of acceptance by any such use, means, instrumentality or facilities within the United States, Canada. Australia or Japan. Accordingly, this advertisement is not being and must not be published or otherwise distributed or sent in, into or from and neither the Offer Document nor the Form of Acceptance (nor any related offering documents)) are being or may be mailed or otherwise forwarded, distributed or sent, in, into or from the United States. Canada, Australia or Japan. Doing so may render any purported acceptance or the Offer invalid.

The directors of Arcrent accept responsibility for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the directors of Arcrent (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the

This advertisement, which is published on behalf of Arcrent by British Linen Bank, has been approved by British Linen

Bank solely for the purpose of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986. British Linen Bank, which is regulated in the UK by the Securities and Futures Authority Limited, is acting for Arcrent and no else in connection with the Offer and will not be responsible to anyone other than Arcrent for providing the protections afforded to customers of British Linen Bank or for providing advice in relation to the Offer.

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footsie fter h

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# Footsie does a U-turn Chief's job at stake after hitting record

THE INCREASING volatility of the stock market was underlined as two-thirds of Wednesday's dramatic gain was wiped out.

Footsie, weighed down by sudden weakness in New York, faitered 101.1 points to 6.206.5 in another session of heavy trading.

Before the sellers won the argument there was just a tiny romp for the bulls to enjoy. In the first 30 minutes of trading Footsie did achieve another record ~ hitting 6,319.8, its highest-ever trading level.

But from then on it was all downhill as the three-day winning run came to an

IS A bidder stalking Church & Co, the upmarket shoe maker and retailer? The shares, a narrow market, rose 33.5p to 375p on rumours that the family-controlled and run Northampton-based group had received an approach worth more than 500p a share. Church, started in 1873, has

survived the rigours of the shoe industry better than most, with profits moving ahead to £5.8m in 1997. The shares peaked at 429p last spring.

abrupt end. At its worst the index was off 114.2, taking it below 6.200.

Supporting shares ignored the slide - just. The mid and small cap indices edged ahead, helped by a fairly resilient display engineers.

BTR Siebe, the recent engineering creation, led the Footsie leader board, up 10p at 265.75p, and provided the inspiration for others in the industry. It was helped along by positive analytical comments. Merrill Lynch was said to be one of the investment houses drawing attention to the new metal-bashing

Orange, after an early to contend with a 50 million share sale by its major shareholder, Hutchison Whampoa, the Hong Kong group. Through Goldman Sachs it cut its holding to 44.8 per cent. The shares were sold on to

corporate action. As a stand-MARKET alone department store chain, Debenhams would be REPORT a much more impressive retail capture than the ragbag of interests grouped together under the old Burton

PAIN

leading investors at 865p.

They closed 51.5p off at 907p.

109.5p to 798p as a 13 per cent

profits rise failed to satisfy

worries that the insurer was

overvalued. Colt Telecom.

planning to raise £500m, lost

131p to 1.145.5p. as losses

British Aerospace was

chains

another ruffled by results.

staged some recovery from

their price-war retreat. Asda

out on 5.75p to 154p and

Tesco 2.25p to 175p. Marks &

Spencer's dramatic shake-up

produced a further advance.

Debenhams, the depart-

ment stores chain, contin-

ued to be one of the best

performing retail shares,

gaining a further 20.5p to

434p, a peak. The shares have

had an erratic time since the

Arcadia demerger but

Debenhams has indicated it

has weathered the retail

downturn better than many.

said underlying sales had

fallen 2.5 per cent, a much

better performance than had

There is also vague talk of

SHARE SPOTLIGHT

FMAM11ASOND1F

share price, pence

420 - DEBENHAMS

been expected.

400 -

380 -

320 -

Its last trading statement

widened to £55.6m.

falling 21p to 420p.

13.25p to 415p.

Supermarket

Legal & General tumbled

MFL the furniture chain. remained under pressure, off 1p at 32.5p, as CSFB slashed its profit estimates. The investment house is believed to have lowered its forecast for the year ending April to £1.5m from £17m; next year's figure has been cut by £10m to

Glaxo Wellcome fell 82p to 2,066p. The shares were under the weather after an advisory panel to the American Food and Drug Administration said the group's flu treatment, Relenza, should not be approved.

Most analysis were upruffled. The drug has already won approval elsewhere and is likely to be resubmitted to the US authorities.

Smith & Nephew, the health group, firmed 2.75p to 183p on results and its new "painless" medical sticking plaster.

Allied Domecq, up 7p to 478.5p, and Bass, 25p higher at 837.5p, drew strength from Dresdner Kleinwort Benson support. Bass, as well as year. Ladbroke, 2.75p firmer at 290.75p, and Millennium & Copthorne, 18.5p to 513.5p, were helped by increasing interest in US hotels. Compass, the contract

caterer, hardened 26.5p to 769.5p following an upbeat trading statement. Railtrack, under pressure

ahead of the rail summit, rebounded 49p to 1,475p after forecasting 3 per cent passenger growth, representing £4.6bn a year.

The commodity broker ED&F Man firmed 8.5p to 302.5p following indications that it had held investment briefings. Ashtead, the plant hire group, gained 5.5p to 172.50 after a £20.5m acquisition and a £30m share placing.

Game, the computer game retailer, rose a further 12p to 142.5p as its rival Electronic Boutique hovered with bid aspirations. Dixons, up a further 22.5p to a new 1,185,5p peak on its suspected Bertelsmann book deal, is

thought to be weighing up the possibilities of getting involved in any bid action.

Devro, the sausage skin maker, sizzled a further 14p to 178.5p as speculation of bid action returned. But some recent bid hopefuls fell back on the failure of any corporate activity to materialise.

Greenalls, the hotels and pub chain, slipped 10.5p to 376.5p, and First Leisure Corporation 7.5p to 207p. Rank, where there has been talk of a break-up bid, fell ?p

But Enterprise Oil, still exploring merger possibilities with Lasmo, jumped 13p to 253p. Lasmo added 6.25p to

GEI INTERNATIONAL firmed 3n to 37.5n as Govett Strategic Investment Trust declared a 4.1 per cent stake.

Govett's holding aroused thoughts that the packaging machinery maker could attract a US bid following the interest in packaging group Field.

GEI has spent heavily on

plant and machinery. Capitalised at only £14m. it commanded sales of £77.7m. Profits were £2.9m and should be higher this

114.75p. Its chief executive Joe Darby believes he will be in a position to make a statement next month about the group's future.

Besides talking to Enterprise, which made an unsuccessful bid four years ago, Lasmo is negotiating with European groups, thought to be Repsol of Spain and ENI of Italy, as well as US oil

The Enterprise/Lasmo clash was a particularly bruising battle with Lasmo, the underdog when hostilities started, growing more powerful as the battle continued.

Old English Pub Co, the chain of country hotels and inns which was hit by a profits warning, climbed 15p from its 12 month low to 127.5p. Last year the shares hit a 384p peak.

SEAQ VOLUME: 1.1 billion SEAQ TRADES: 88,286 GILTS INDEX: 113.9 -1.07

5 811375 -200 6 90060 -100 -5 694700 275 1 107300 225 80 60750 -534 75 7700 160 5 310075 1825

# at Smith & Nephew

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

CHRIS O'DONNELL, the chief executive of Smith & Nephew, yesterday admitted that he could lose his job if a radical shake-up of the healthcare group's operations failed to boost margins and earnings over the next few years.

The news came as S&N said that it was planning a secondary listing in New York in an attempt to increase its rating and enlarge its shareholder base.

Mr O'Donnell pledged to increase margins by 3 per cent by 2001 and to push earnings per share growth into "high single digits" through a sweeping restructuring of the company's manufacturing operations.

The chief executive, who was appointed 18 months ago. said he could be forced out by the board and S&N's shareholders if the group missed the targets. "We are taking this seriously at every level. We will probably get fired if we don't deliver," he said.

His comments came as the maker of hip replacement and wound healing products reported a fall in profits for the second year in a row. Pre-tax profits fell 5 per cent to £134.5m, largely due to a £15m currency hit. S&N derives over 80 per cent of its sales from overseas and over the past two years has

Market value £2.35bn. share price 183p (+2.75p) 96 97 Trading record Full year to 31 decembe Turnover (£bn) 1.07 1.03 1.05 178.7 152.4 134.5 Pre-tax profits (Em) Earnings per share (p) 10.30 10.90 10 24 8.42 Dividends per share (p) 6.00 6.20 6.20 Turnover by product Share price Casting and 220support 210-

SMITH & NEPHEW: AT A GLANCE

strength of the pound. Stripping currency out, profit grew 7 per cent despite difficult conditions in global healthcare markets. which were squeezed by budget cuts in many countries. The shares shrugged off the results to close 2.75p higher at

Endoscopy

Mr O'Donnell said the company had had a tough year, marred by the rejection by the US regulatory authority of its

artificial skin derived from habies' foreskins used to treat diabetic foot ulcers.

94 95 96 97 98 99

However, he maintained that S&N was now "meaner and leaner". Last year, the company restructured under products. rather than geographical lines, making around 400 people redundant at a cost of £18m. The changes will deliver a £15m saving from this year, and S&N plans to spend a further £53m

activities. It expects to close around 6 of its 35 worldwide plants in an effort to cut £20m from the cost base by 2001 and focus its factories on its three core divisions of orthopaedic. endoscopy and wound man-

agemenL Mr O'Donnell said he expected S&N's four UK plants to remain open and ruled out large job losses among the group's 12,000 workforce. The shake-up would prepare the company for a secondary listing on the New York bourse

The chief executive said he had no plans to transfer the company to the US, although he did not rule it out in the long term. "We take great pride in being a British company but price/carnings ratios are higher on the other side of the At lantic." he said

However, City analysts were scentical of S&N's near term prospects. One observer said that the shares - on around 18 times 1999 earnings forecasts of £163m – should not be bought until S&N delivers on its promise of selling non-core businesses to buy a rival in the £3bn-a-year orthopaedic market.

"We believe they don't deserve anything like the rating of their US rivals. They have an awful lot to prove before we can

#### Rio Tinto withstands the meltdown

RIO TINTO, the former RTZ By NIGEL COPE mining group, turned in a Associate City Editor respectable set of results yesterday, given the continued

weakness in metals prices. Pre-tax profits fell by 6 per cent to £1.2bn but the company continued its cost-cutting programme and managed to maintain margins.

Companies like this are always a gamble on commodity prices but Rio offers investors more stability than rivals such as Billiton because of its broader spread of interests.

This has helped protect the company from the worst rav- there has been carnage. The just around the corner.

ages of the commodity meltdown. The shares, which slumped to 566.5p last autumn, have recovered to 8150, just a penny lower on vesterday's

Unlike Billiton, which is dominated by aluminium and steel, Rio Tinto is spread more evenly across copper, iron ore, gold and industrial minerals such as titanium dioxide and

diamonds. In some of these markets

ounce. The iron ore price is down by over 10 per cent yearon-year and the outlook here is

gold price is at its lowest point

In copper the price is at its lowest for 12 years. Stocks of copper, which account for 23 per cent of Rio's sales, have been rising due to increased production and demand has been

But analysts suggest that a third of copper producers are

Rio's chairman, Robert Wilsince 1978 at a price of \$287 per son, is cautious on the outlook. saying that "the fragile global economy points to little, if any demand growth for us in 1999, even though the US continues to surprise".

> However, some analysts say the shares are a decent hold. with the possibility of hedge funds piling back into the stock after selling heavily last year, a factor which helped push the price lower.

On full-year profit forecasts not covering their cash costs and that a shake-out should be a forward multiple of 17 and are

until the rouble devaluation

crisis struck last year. Then

Deutsche. like scores of other

western banks and account-

ancy and law firms, took an axe

to its Moscow headcount, which

had been built up in the previ-

Mr Wermuth was made re-

He was paid a basic of over

dundant two months after

Russia reneged on its western

£200,000 a year, but he claims he

could have earned bonuses of

up to £20m. Deutsche refused

ous boom times.

#### Up the asset mountain

KEITH SKEOCH is leaving his job as managing director of in-ternational equities at HSBC, one of the world's biggest banks. to be chief investment officer at Standard Life, one of the world's biggest insurance companies.

Standard Life took its time selecting a successor to John Thomson, who stepped down as chief investment officer 18 months ago. Since then the insurance company has set up a stand-alone company to manage its £65bn asset mountain, Standard Life Investments (SLI).

Sandy Crombie, chief executive of SLI, says they were determined to get the right person to pursue their ambitious plan - to grow assets to £100bn within five years.

Mr Skeoch, 42, joined James Capel (now HSBC Securities) in 1980 and held a number of top economics posts. Krishna Patel, HSBC Securities' chief executive, holds no grudges about his departure: "We recognise that the chance to become CIO of Standard Life Investments is too good an opportunity to miss."

#### Roundhead

#### BUSINESS By John

PEOPLE AND

Willcock

carpethagger-in-chief, is taking time off from trying to to extract windfalls from Britannia Building Society to launch his own

political movement today, the

Lords Party. This follows from Mr Hardern's scheme to make every British citizen a member of the House of Lords. A worrying new development is that he has put himself forward as "the first Lord Protector - office to expire

on 31 December 1999". The last Lord Protector I can think of in this country was Oliver Cromwell, who executed King Charles I and closed the House of Commons in order to impose his own Par-

liament, among other things. As for Mr Hardern's push for power, I can only quote Oliver Cromwell back at him: "in the name of God - go!"

#### PR on the piste

their public relations director, bumped into a bronzed Phil Smith, who is leaving KPMG to travel the world, in a supermarket in the French Alps a couple of weeks ago.

Ms Gilbert and Mr Smith, who were both skiing in Meribel, worked closely together last year in the aborted merger talks between Ernst & Young and KPMG.

Ms Gilbert recently married Peter Lynn, whom she met while working at the Serious Fraud Office in the early

#### Bank raid

DEUTSCHE BANK is having a miserable time of it, what with cross-dressing fund managers at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, a \$750m exposure to Russia, claims related to World War Two and so on.

Now a former executive in Deutsche's Moscow office is suing the giant bank for £23m. Jochen Wermuth was head

of capital markets in Moscow

Quick change

CLARE SPOTTISWOODE, the former gas regulator, has jacked in her full-time job with Enron after just six months in order to join PA Consulting.

Ms Spottiswoode has left her post as senior vice-president of regulatory affairs in Europe for the American utility giant, in order to spearhead PA's drive for European energy business,

Just last week, Ms Spottiswoode signed up with a team of high-profile advisers from the private sector to push forward an £8bn Whitehall efficiency drive. Spreading herself a bit thin, perhaps?

E-mail: j.willcock@indepen-

### ITS A small PR world. Claire Gilbert, who has just left Ernst MICHAEL HARDERN, the & Young to join rival accounfreelance butler and self-styled tants Pannel Kerr Forster as The Corporate Bond PER Source LGIM (08/02/94). The running yield of the Flaced interest Thea was 6-19-14. The redemption yield as a 8-February 1999 Past performance whot necessarily a patide to future performance. Both capital and income others may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested All comparisons of cost apply to PFF4 investing wholly in thin Trusts. Tax assumptions are those currently applicable and the subject to stanutory chance. The value of aix relief will depend on your individual occuminators. Full written details are available on regiest Legal & General (Direct Hamited Registered in England No. 79/200). Registered Office Temple Count, 11 Queen Victoria Rices, London ECIN 4TP. Representative only of the Jegal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assumer and histogramment products hearing Legal & General's name. A member of AUTIF Investors should be aware that untilke cash in a Deposit Account the capital value of un-estimatis in First Inject of the available of the previous of the proposition of the product of PFP4 until Appl 1999 From that date a new tax privileged savings vehicle the Individual Swings Account (ISA) will be available.

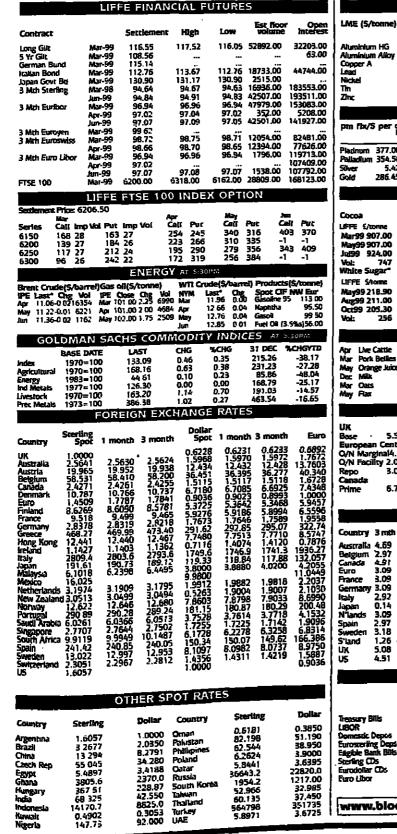
6.1%\* pa tax free

An interest rate of would be required in a bank or building society

deposit account to achieve 6.1% net pa for a basic rate taxpayer







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Mar Cude Polm (SLC) \$/25 m 1671.00
May Sogo Oil (CBT) \$/60k lb 18.58
Jul Wiooflen Yarm (TCM) \$/500kg 7165.00 68.00 50.50 86.05 UK
Bose 5.50%
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# **SPORT**

Football: Seagulls move up pecking order as new manager Wood inspires south-coast club's revival



Thinking big: Jeff Wood, Brighton and Hove Albion's ambitious new manager, takes a break from supervising training at the Sussex University ground

Andrew Hasson

# Brighton are starting to rock

FOR SUPPORTERS of Brighton and Hove Albion, the last eight years have felt like a version of the famous Chinese curse: may you support an interesting football club. Since the Seagulls came within one game of a return to the top flight in the 1991 play-off final, life for players and fans has been very interesting indeed. They have lost the Goldstone Ground, now a retail park and, but for a slightly streaky equaliser on the last day of the season at Hereford in May 1997, would have lost their League status too. There was a vicious civil war between the supporters and their exchairman, and they have spent almost two seasons spent playing every match away from home.

It should be time for a year or two in mid-table obscurity, a pause for breath but, at Brighton, things do not seem to work like that. This season, though, it is a cause in 1997, is a former advertising exfor minor celebration. After two ecutive, who gave the world, years as the second-worst club in the country. Brighton have already accumulated more points than in the whole of last season, in 10th place in the Third Division, they are within sight of a place in the playoffs at least. It is, by recent standards, a triumph.

So far, the Brighton story has

By GREG WOOD

shown other football fans how quickly a team can decline under bad administration, and also how the supporters themselves can plan and mobilise opposition. Now, it could become an example of the ways to rebuild trust between team and fans.

Dick Knight, who replaced the hate-figure Bill Archer as chairman

'I'd signed a three-year contract to go and coach in the United States, but when I got the call it really wasn't any contest'.

among other things, Eva Herzigova in the Wonderbra adverts. He knows his marketing, and there is now an air of openness about the club, which includes regular meetings with fans' representatives. There is even talk of a "shirt amnesty", to persuade the town's youngsters to trade in their Man-

chester United and Arsenal kits for ence. "I'd just signed a three-year a smart new Albion strip.

Yet most of the credit for

Brighton's survival, not to mention their current, relative, good form. lies with fans who never lost hope, even when every weekend seemed to bring a new disaster. When Brighton are at "home", hundreds of cars and buses leave town at lunchtime to travel to Gillingham's Priestfield stadium. It is four motorways and three counties away but, at times on the 75-mile journey, it can seem as if every other car on the road has a blue-andwhite mascot hanging from the

rear-view mirror. There were more than 4,000 at Gillingham for their last home game, and almost as many for the fixture at Southend last weekend. After both matches, they travelled home angry and gloomy after poor displays, but most, probably all, will be back at Priestfield on Saturday.

These were the first reverses in the short managerial career of Jeff Wood, a former Charlton goalkeeper who arrived at the club in December 1996 as assistant to Steve Gritt. Brighton were 11 points adrift at the bottom of the Third Division, apparent certainties for relegation to the Confer-

contract to go and coach in the States," Wood says. "I had the visa in my passport and I was due to leave on 2 January. But when I got the call from Steve, it really wasn't any contest, because I knew

what a big club this was and what could be achieved." Wood remembers that, at his first morning training session: "When the players were warming

up, it was deadly silent, none of the banter you normally get, so the first thing we did was put some spirit into the team. We had about eight points from 22 games, but we'd looked at what had happened in previous seasons and we reckoned that about 34 points would keep us up. In the end, we had to get 47, and even then we only stayed up on goals scored." It was an astonishing escape,

but the drop would have been merely delayed had it not been for the disastrous and criminal events at Doncaster last season. Gritt departed, to be replaced by Brian Horton, who left for Port Vale last month. When Wood took charge, he became Brighton's fifth manager in as many years.

It is hard to believe that, less than 20 years ago, Brighton could beat Tottenham or Manchester United in the old First Division, and no-one would see it as a great surprise. They were the Leicester City of their time, organised, wellsupported and entirely at home in the higher branches of the football

No team has ever fallen so far, so quickly, but Horton, and now Wood, finally seem to have applied the brakes. The arrival of Ian

'There are teams in the Premiership who are getting 15,000 to 20.000. We could do better than that'

Culverhouse, once of Norwich and Spurs, has shored up the defence, while Gary Hart, a shrewd signing from Stansted the cost £1,000 and a set of kit) is a quick and promis-ing striker. Yet the decline which was the result of a decade of boardroom incompetence will take at least as long to reverse.

"I would say that the First Division is a minimum." Wood says.

"Some clubs, it doesn't matter

how well they do, they will never

be big clubs, but there are teams

in the Premiership who, week in,

week out, are getting 15,000 or 20,000. We could do better than

need a new, permanent stadium. A

site has been identified, near Sus-

sex University at Falmer, and every

resident of Brighton and Hove will

have a chance to register their ap-

proval, or otherwise, in a referen-

dum in May. Even then, however,

the planning process will be tortu-

ous, and an athletics stadium on the

outskirts of town will be the Seag-

ulls' base for the foreseeable future.

probably from the start of next sea-

son. It will not be much - 6,000 ca-

pacity, and thin air behind the

Brighton as quickly as possible and

build the club around the town

again," Wood says. "There is such

potential here, the fans believe it,

and the players are starting to believe it too. Sheffield Wednesday,

Sheffield United and Wolves have

years, so it can be turned around.

This could be a big club again. It

will be a big club again."

all been in this division in recent

"We have to get back to

goals ~ but it will be bome.

But, to do so, Brighton will first

that."

I have. I'm not ashamed of what I've done. Lennox Lewis is a defeated foe. will find it out on 13 March." Holyfield said Lewis had been dar-

ing him to fight him and, now he had his wish he would be facing "his worst nightmare." The man who beat Mike Tyson twice brushed

"The only (time) that I'll consider leaving is when the Lord has released me from boxing." said Holyfield, who will be paid £12m for

Holyfield added he continues to fight "for the purpose of spreading The Word. God will let me know when to quit. "It's not fair because he don't have a chance to win." Holyfield said of Lewis. "Whatever I do (in the

of Lewis's stamina in the later rounds is irrelevant because. "the fight won't go that long. Everybody gets tired, it's what you do when you get tired."

The former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, in gaol for assaulting two motorists, will spend 25 days in solitary confinement as punishment for hurling a television set

# Deakin's Warrington challenge

Chief executive with an impressive track record knows that his

ers, fire-eaters or other signs Peter Deakin is in town at Warrington on Sunday. The new chief executive of. the local rugby league club is only visiting, his time shared with Saracens until May, but the fact that he will be at Wilderspool for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie against Halifax rather than with the fez-wearers at Newcastle signifies a new era.

Having turned around two rugby clubs - Bradford Bulls and Saracens - Deakin is looking for a hat-trick. "The similarity is there is a lot of work to be done," he says. "The difference is that, from a marketing perspective, it's a different sort of challenge. At Bradford, all the dour things rugby league was associated with were encapsulated at Odsal and that was what we had to change. Saracens had a tremendous heritage, but were still offering an image of elitism."

new rugby league club requires a special touch. By Dave Hadfield against opposition like Halifax on Say what you like about Peter

Deakin, but he buried dour old Bradford and stiff-upper-lipped Sarries in a deep hole and brought different brands of brashness to the

forefront of their codes of rugby: "Warrington are coming off the back of a bad time financially. The proach. They didn't allow women in the boardroom, but the first thing we're going to do is to create a fam-

ily type atmosphere." families to Wilderspool, with its restricted capacity and its historic inability to convert the town's many them this is an alternative product newcomers. Deakin's first problem is that the ground only has a safety certificate for a mere 7.300 specta- twice what it is here and that all haptors - he hopes to reach that limit pened in two years."

Sunday - and it will take a lot of doing to raise it to the supposed Super League minimum of 10,000. empty acres.

Further along the line, the club plans to move to a new site, with two possibilities well advanced. But you still have to pull in the punters and old board also had a chauvinistic ap- too many of those on the doorstep retain their sporting affiliations with Liverpool and Manchester.

"That doesn't bother me," says Deakin. "The first law of marketing But, to do that, you have to attract is you don't change people's minds. We don't want to change what We did that with Saracens. We took the season ticket base there to

Equally to the point for Warrington, they did it in a constricted stadium at Vicarage Road that is much more like Wilderspool than Odsal's

"We're not going to be able to put on the shows that we did at Odsal. but I learned at Watford what you can do in a confined space. Simplicity is the key; by the time of our first Super League match on 21 March you'll see a difference."

Although Deakin has always argued a successful operation must be marketing-led rather than rugby-led. a team successful and charismatic enough for the new fans to focus on remains essential

Paul a pivotal figure in promoting the long-term success of the club, he's club. "And we have people at War-

rington who we can use in the same way," he says.

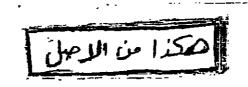
Intriguingly, one of them is Super League's oldest player, the 34-year-old winger, Mark Forster. "He's been around for ever, but he's never been stretched in terms of his personality. He's brilliant with kids. We have great overseas personalities like Danny Farrar and Simon Gillies and we will be using Alan Hunte as

a cutting edge for the whole club." All four will be on duty against Halifax and it is already apparent the signings of Gillies, the experienced former Canterbury captain, and Hunte, a Great Britain centre still in his prime, will strengthen last season's side.

"But he's the best signing we've made this year," says the Warrington coach, Darryl Van de Velde, At Bradford, he made Robbie nodding towards Deakin. "For the our best signing."



Deakin: Confident of building a family atmosphere Ben Duffu



### Holyfield to beat Lewis 'in three'

BY DAVID FIELD

**EVANDER HOLYFIELD yesterday** raised the profile of his unification fight with the World Boxing Council champion Lennox Lewis next month with a statement of intent. The usually reserved Holyfield warned Britain's Lennox Lewis: "Expect to be knocked out in the third round."

Holyfield, the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation heavyweight champion, is not normally outspoken but insisted: "I am not predicting it, I am telling you".

The American's statement rerealed a determined edge before his showdown with Lewis at New York's Madison Square Garden on 13 March. Lewis has thrown a few remarks in Holyfield's direction during the last week and has accused the double champion of "ducking"

him until the mega-fight was made. Holyfield added: "Lennox is a good fighter. Lennax will do well. I'm still gonna knock him out. Now you just have to wait and see if Evander tells the truth. I've opened my mouth and now I have to knock him out."

Holyfield, who will give away about 30lb and three inches to Lewis, says he was putting himself "out on a limb" with his prediction in order to have the world judge "if the man of God is true." He added he wanted "people to see the changes God made to my life."

Holyfield's prediction of a knockout could also be an attempt to pump himself up for the fight against the strong, but technically impaired and often passive Lewis. "People always try to find a reason to make themselves feel better about themselves," said Holyfield, when asked about Lewis calling him a hypocrite for espousing his religion while fathering children out of wedlock.

Lewis's criticisms "don't make me any smaller". Holyfield said. The question is whether a person \*can overcome mistakes he's made and

aside any earthly reason for retiring. the fight, Lewis will get £6 million.

ring] he won't be able to stop it."

Holyfield added that the question

at pr\_son guards.

A Montgomery County Detention Centre disciplinary panel also took phone, television and visitation privileges away from the 32-year-old fighter. The boxer will spend 23 hours a day in solitary confinement until mid-March

315 (co. 1)

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Lakers

Harris

By KEN PETERS

sack

# Sweet 16 and fast with it

mond and Du'Aine Ladejo.

enormous potential."

you start winning, you put

pressure on yourself because

you are the favourite," he said.

to beat France.
Since he was taken along to the Birchfield Harriers track by his father five years ago,

MARK LEWIS-FRANCIS is excused lessons today - because he has got places to see and people to beat. While his classmates at George Salter High School in West Bromwich the fastest 16-year-old on legs this country has ever produced is flying out to Paris, where he will represent Britain in an

ent has shone with ever-increasing brightness, to the point where those who oversee his athletic development are busy downplaying his achieve-

That task is getting harder ion's wake have had years to

Mark Lewis-Francis is the latest British athlete to be

burdened with the 'new Christie' tag. By Mike Rowbottom

as he rewrites the record books in his Under-17 categowork on towards their GCSEs, ry. Last August he broke the 18year-old British 100 metres record in winning the Amateur Athletic Association title, recording 10.49sec after running 10.36 with wind assistance in the semi-finals.

Earlier this month he reduced the 60m record to 6.77sec, a time he reproduced last Saturday in wnning the AAA indoor title.

Although Linford Christie still does not seem to have accepted the idea that he has retired from athletics, those who follow in the Olympic champfeel the burden of being his potential successor. "Is this the next Linford Christie?" The question has been asked of Ian Mackie, Darren Campbell, Jason Gardener, Dwain Chambers, Christian Malcolm... the list is long, and Lewis-Francis is unlikely to escape the same ritual interrogation.

But his coach at Birchfield, Steve Platt, and the man who has overseen his development. Tony Hadley, are intensely aware of the need to avoid over-pressuring an outstanding natural talent.

"We've not seen anyone run so fast before at this age," said Hadley, whose previous

guitar as part of his GCSE in charges include Derek Red-Although Lewis-Francis is

already 6ft 1in, and still grow-"But there have been a lot of ing, his training regime is a defast teenagers in this sport liberately conservative one. "I some come through, some train twice a week, and although I do some conditioning The next five or so years are work in the gym, I will not be doing any weight training for at least another year," he said. going to be the vital ones for Mark "He's a lively character,

and he's got a good head on his Self-criticism is also in place. shoulders," Hadley added. "We He was far from satisfied from last Saturday's effort at the Nawant to see him realise his tional Indoor Arena, where his Lewis-Francis, one of six time was rounded up from 6.75 children, is well aware of the to 6.77 on photographic evichallenges that lie ahead of him if he is to do that. "Once

"I didn't get a good start," he said. "I'm a very weak starter, and I was slow getting out of my

Away from the track, he re- Francis this year are the Eulaxes by playing keyboards and ropean Junior Championships and the Youth Olympics. Bevond that, he has the 2000 Olympics in his sights.

> His learning curve is a steep one, although he picked up some vital experience last summer at the World Junior Championships in Annecy, France, where he competed in the relay team.

Any medal ambitions were thwarted by a first-round disqualification after a colleague had run out of his lane. But Lewis-Francis picked up useful tips on how to prepare for major championships from Christian Malcolm, who won

both the 100 and 200m titles. "I watched all the things Christian did," Lewis-Francis



Lewis-Francis: Self-critical Mark Shearman

**DENNIS RODMAN'S signing for** the Los Angeles Lakers came got warmed up. It will all help too late to save their coach, Del me." Malcolm has already Harris, from being sacked on been beaten by Lewis-Francis, Wednesday, said the club's president Jerry West, Harris in one of the 60m races in last year's Britain v France fixwill be replaced by one of his asture. If his younger colleague continues to improve at his current rate, the world junior champion is unlikely to be so

sistants, either Larry Drew or Kurt Rambis. "We have confidence that one of those two people would do a good job for us based on their time around the office," West said. Harris's firing, one day after the signing of Rodman, follows a sequence of three losses in as

many days, including embarrassing defeats by the lowly Denver Nuggets and Vancouver Grizzlies, With a line-up that features youthful talents such as Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant, the Lakers were tipped

as one of the title favourites in the lockout-shortened season. But the team has often appeared disorganised in compiling a mediocre 6-6 record. "I wouldn't exactly say we were floundering." West said.

"We get paid a lot of money to make these decisions and to say they are easy, they are not. I had trouble sleeping last night and I will have trouble sleeping again tonight," admitted the Hall of Fame member who starred for the Lakers in his playing days.

The Lakers were scheduled to begin a home-and-home series against the Los Angeles Clippers late last night with Bill Bertka manning the bench as a decision is made on Drew or Rambis, Rodman is set to make his Lakers debut today at the Great Western Forum against the Clippers. Whoever gets the go-ahead as the new coach will have the task of fitting the controversial, flamboyant Rodman into the chemistry of the current

"From a playing perspective. I don't think there's any doubt he will help our basketball team," West said of Rod-National Basketball Association championships in his career - the last three with the Chicago Bulls.

"Sometimes we need a little fire. He will add some spice to the Lakers," West said. "Any coach that has ever had Dennis will tell you he brings tenacity to the table."

England beat Belarus 61-56 in any uncompromisingly tough encounter in the semi-final round of the European Championship at Crystal Palace on

# Jackson in form at just the right time

BRITAIN'S Colin Jackson By LUKE DENNEHY warmed up for next month's in Melbourne World Indoor Championships with a comfortable win in the 110m hurdles at the Melbourne Grand Prix event yesterday.

The Welshman clocked 13.24sec in the outdoor event, improving on his 13.30sec last week, and had a clean run after a good start. "I'm happy with been fantastic. My coach will be really, really pleased that I stayed relaxed," said the world record holder. Jonathan Nsenda from Belgium was runner-

up in 13.60sec Namibia's Frankie Frederworld record holder recorded the fastest-ever time in Australia for the event, coming home in 19.92, outcle rivals, with Patrick Stevens of won her event easily in Belgium runner-up in 20.42. 51.48sec, beating Britain's Ali-Fredericks shattered the previous best of 20.19 by the Aus-

tralian John Dinan. It was the second time in two weeks he had notched a sprint record on Australian soil. Last week at the Sydney Grand Prix he recorded 9.94sec for 100m. "I'm happy to come here and run fast." Fredericks said. "Tm up to where I was in 1996. I think I'm in wonderful shape."

Russia's Sergey Makarov upstaged European Champi-

onship bronze medallist Raymond Hecht in the javelin and set an Australian all-comers record. He threw 87.13 metres to beat Germany's Peter Blank with 85.89m. Hecht, also a German, was third on 83.55m.

Kenya's Luke Kinkoseei won my indoor preparation. It's the 5,000m in 13min 11.11sec. while Australian Lee Troop broke a 33-year-old national record of Ron Clarke. Troop clocked 13:14.82 to beat Clarke's 13:16.6 in Stockholm in 1966. Clarke has been critical of the inability of Australian runners icks won the 200m. The indoor to match his old times. "He gave me no praise," said Troop.

"He actually mocked me a bit." The Australian 400m world son Curbishly and Australian Susan Andrews, "I haven't been feeling very well, all I wanted to do was win." Freeman said. "I had some sort of bug and I'm

lucky I'm in strong shape." The veteran sprinter Merlene Ottey has dismissed any talk of retirement after breezing to victory in the 60m at the European Athletics Association Indoor Invitational in Athens on Wednesday night. The Jamaican, who hopes to



In command: Colin Jackson on his way to a comfortable victory in the men's 110 metres hurdles in Melbourne vesterday

Olympics just before her 40th birthday, clocked 7.05sec and said she could have done better. "I did try," Ottey said. "Everybody said this was a fast track but it wasn't. I'm not going to pressure myself."

In Wednesday's race, she beat Greece's Katerina Thanou, who finished in 7.16sec.

Ashia Hansen looks in form to take on the world after dominating the women's triple jump Sydney would give Ottey her at the Six Nations track and

run in the 2000 Sydney last chance to win the Olympic field indoor in Genoa, Italy, the Malcolm, was upset in the 60m in 6.71sec. Otherwise Maebashi, Japan, from 5 to 7 March.

> Hansen's victory on Wednesday night, with 14.38m, 0.78m off her world mark, was the only one by a Briton as Christian

vear, finished runner-up to France's Marc Foucan who won the 200m in 21.04sec. Mal-

colm clocked 21.12sec. Another French sprinter.

gold that has always ehuded her. last major meet before the men's 200m. Malcolm, a double Russian athletes won the most World Indoor Championships at world junior champion last events in the Six Nations competition which also featured Italy, Spain and Portugal, Russia led both the men's and women's standings for a winning total of 131.5 points. Spain

### Russian women maintain dominance

RUSSIA COMPLETED a decade unbeaten in women's crosscountry 4x5 kilometre relay in major competitions when their quartet stormed to victory at the Nordic World Championships yesterday.

It was Russia's first success in an otherwise disappointing championships after dominating Nordic events in the 1990s. While Russia's win was expected, the day's other action featured a surprise as Finland edged out favourites Norway to snatch the Nordic combined.

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SKIING BY NESHAR STARCEBIC

The Finnish team beat the Norwegians by 1min 14.7sec on the first sunny day in Ramsau, which for the past six days had been affected by snowstorms and avalanche warnings.

Going into the championships the Russian women had claimed every gold medal on offer at both the last two Olympics and world championships. Since the 4x5km relay

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in the 1990s has been even five world championship and three Olympic titles on offer this decade. Yesterday, the Russians, led off by double Olympic gold medallist Olga Danilova, shot to the front and were never challenged. Extending her lead with every stride, the

23.2 -5C Unsettled

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WORLDCOVER)

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Olympic and world gold er 30 seconds before giving way to Anfisa Reztsova, who Their domination of the race continued to add to the advantage, handing over 90 seconds more complete, sweeping the to anchor Nina Gavriljuk, who coasted across the finish line, waving the Russian flag in 53min 05.9sec.

> "Obviously we were the favourites to win this event." said Lazutina. "But we were able to deal with the pressure." Italy after a brilliant anchor Russia.

became part of championship 32-year-old handed on a 30-sec- leg by Stefania Belmondo, programme in 1972, Russians ond advantage to Larissa crossed 1:24.5 adrift to take crossed 1245 adrift to take have snapped up 13 out of 18 Lazutina, who piled on anoth- the silver while Germany were surprise bronze medallists finishing a further 2:7.8 back on the

> Finland's victory in the Nordic team combined was set up in the morning's ski jumping as the runners-up to Norway at both the 1998 Nagano Olympics and the 1997 Trondheim world championships took the lead and held on in the cross-country. Bronze went to

### **Kostner sets the** pace for downhill

ISOLDE KOSTNER posted yesterday's fastest training run for the women's World Cup sprint downhill event to be held to-

The 23-year-old Italian, fifth in the downhill standings, covered the 1,650 metres Gastrappet course in 1min 3.56sec. better than the German Regina Hausi by 0.08sec. France's Melanie Suchet was third fastest, 0.22sec off the pace.

The season's leading downhiller, Austria's Renate Götschl, placed fifth on 1:03.91 as she looks to put some distance between herself and Germany's Hilde Gerg, who sits just 51 points behind with three races left in the season, including Saturday's event. Gerg was sixth in the training run.

"There is still a lot of time between now and Saturday so the main thing for me is to stay focused and relax," Gerg said. "I feel good on the skis so there are no worries from that standpoint, which is always the best way to enter a race.". The overall World Cup

standings leader, Alexandra Meissnitzer of Austria, cruised through the run in 14th place as she prepared to put Wednesday's disappointing giant slalom race behind her, and keep Gerg from cutting too much into her 447 points lead.

"I made a mistake in the GS but that happens when you go all out. Sometimes you go just over the edge," Meissnitzer said. "But I feel fine and know I need to put some points on the board in the downhill, and that's my goal. I'll worry about the GS after that."

Organisers decided to use a two-leg sprint format for Saturday's downhill in the hope of avoiding the notorious fog here. By starting lower on the hill, officials hope to avoid delays that could be caused by adverse weather conditions higher up

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# Thriller fans are still in the dark

WHEN HE trotted past the post by GREG WOOD to win the Jim Ford Chase at Wincanton\_ here yesterday, Double Thriller was so many lengths clear that the judge did not bother to count them, which is about as that Double Thriller's improved much as you can ask of any horse. Yet even this was not enough to shift his odds for the the opportunity to cut Double Cheltenham Gold Cup by more than a fraction, and when he goes to post at the Festival in less than three weeks' time. punters should still be able to hack him at around 9-1.

Since he is, on a literal reading of the form book, the horse they all have to beat, those odds look very fair. Last April, he beat Teeton Mill, the jointfavourite for the Gold Cup, fair and square in a hunter chase at Cheltenham. The catch - and of course, there is always a catch - is that while Teeton Mill has clearly improved enormously this year, Double Thriller's form so far amounts to two victories against opponents who were not fit to plait his tail.

Yesterday's race added nothing new to the database, beyond the fact that Double Thriller is fit and well as the biggest race in Britain and Ireland must now sit down and ask themselves just how good they think be is. Gut feeling is all they have ness," he said. "He's in great to go on.

"We can keep on dreaming, and you lot can keep on guessing," was how Paul Nicholls, Double Thriller's trainer, put it. for the Gold Cup, as neither "When you've got to make the running all the time it's not youd Istabraq, the odds-on at the Festival. ideal, and Joe [Tizzard] said favourite. The Kingwell Hurdle On the oththat he wasn't doing a tap in front, and I think he'll be much better in better company with a truly run race. Venetia

proved Teeton Mill a lot since last year but I'd like to think a lot too."

William Hill decided to take Thriller from 10-1 to 8-1 for Cheltenham, but otherwise his trimmed his price for the Grand National, from 8-1 to 7-1. "The Gold Cup will take a lot of winning, and to be honest I think

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Luke Warm (Market Rasen 3.05) NB: Millcroft Riviera (Kempton 4.30)

he'll have a better chance in the National," Nicholls said. "But we'll put everything into the Gold Cup and give it our best

Double Thriller could be one of three Gold Cup runners from the yard, along with See More Business and Earthmover, who runs in the Greenalls Grand of his life draws near. Punters National Trial at Haydock tomorrow. Nicholls took his leave yesterday with a warning. form." He is also a 25-1 chance with Hills.

The Champion Hurdle market is even more static than that bookies nor punters can see behas been one of the better Cheltenham trials in recent years, but Grey Shot's two-and-a-half length success in yesterday's not get within a dozen lengths [Williams] has obviously im- running was not enough to of Istabraq.



The Champion Hurdle hope Grey Shot gallops away from the final flight for an easy win in the Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton yesterday

Julian Herbert/Allsport

# Maguire's tip is Dangerus

more on this ground," Andrew Balding, representing his father, Ian, said. "He might have DANGERUS PRECEDENT is jumped better, and we'll school going to win the Triumph Hurhim before Cheltenham, but dle according to Adrian Maguire he's a different horse on the who finished second on Alground he really wants." Grey brighton to Charlie Egerton's charge at Huntingdon yesterday. Shot needs it fast - it was tacky

bring him any closer to the top

here yesterday - and a positive

thought for anyone looking to

back an outsider is that it rarely

comes up any softer than good

could probably stage the race

over a two-mile stretch of the

M4, and Grey Shot would still

On the other hand, they

"He couldn't have done any

of the market than 25-1.

Dean Gallagher made most of the running on the gelding and easily shook off Albrighton to win by three and a half lengths. When we pulled up, Adrian said my fellow was the winner of the Triumph," Gallagher said. "That was impressive, he is real class and you can't fault him - we could have won by 20 lengths."

Egerton was delighted and hurdle at Punchestown, he is a said: "Some people don't like the Triumph but while a lot of horses are not ready for it, this one is ideal - he takes his racing well." Dangerus Precedent is a 10-1 chance for the Triumph

with William Hill. Maguire observed; "The winner was very impressive and I think he could go all the way, Albrighton is no slouch, you know." Albrighton is also in the Triumph but his trainer, Ferdy Murphy, said: "He definitely won't go to Cheltenham, he will go for the four-year-old

nice horse for the future."

Egerton warned punters that Decoupage, his Tote Gold Trophy winner, is not certain to go for the Champion Hurdle for which he is a 25-1 chance with Ladbrokes. "I am favouring the County Hurdle rather than the Champion," he said.

At Lingfield, Summer Bounty gave Barry Hills the 2,000th domestic Flat success of his career. The Lambourn trainer, who took out a licence in 1969

year's Lincoln, has won a 1,000 Guineas (Enstone Spark), a 2,000 Guineas (Tap On Wood), a St Leger (Moonax), a Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Rheingold) and four Irish Classics along the way to hitting 2,000.

Philip Mitchell yesterday

confirmed that his Dubai World Cup hope Running Stag will bypass Saturday's Winter Derby Trial at Lingfield in favour of a racecourse gallop.

The jockey Mark Richards was taken to hospital for X-rays on the back of a winning bet on after a fall from Agift in the clos-Frankincense in the previous ingrace at Huntingdon.

FIRST SHOW Kempton 3.55 coring Padigme 5-2 11-4 3-1 11-4 5-2 72 41 72 41 103 Call May Guest 51 92 51 112 8-1 Aboo Hom 152 61 8-1 11-2 6-1 61 81 81 81 91 Go Go Herny 12-1 12-1 9-1 10-1 10-1 (4) R1 R1 141 16-1 14: 12-1 16-1 14-1 Nine () Times 10-1 16-1 14-1 16-1 16-1 50-1 25-1 33-1 33-1 40-1 Danning Nong 100-1 58-1 50-1 68-1 58-1

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HUNTINGDON

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2.20 Tinotops

3.25 Strong Paladin

3.55 SCORING PEDIGREE (nap) 4.30 Boardroom Shuffle

■ Right-hand course, Practically flat.

II Ricecourse is an A308 at Suntury, Kempton Park railway station adjoins the course.

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£5. CAR PARK: Members £2; remainder, free.

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II FAVOURITES: C23-315 (success rate 40.6%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None

2.20 CORINTHIAN HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 3m Penalty Value £1,982 TI FC TINOTOPS (13) (D) (R H H Targett) Mrs A Victory 9 (27 ...... Miss S Victory (3)

E	SETTING: 13-	8 Tinotopa, 9-4 Copper Thiatle, 7-1 Loyel Note, 8-1 King Of Clare, 10-1 Chism, Po-					
	- 10 declared -						
١	D 00005	TUG OF PEACE (11) (Writers Colviny Parmorship) G Seawn 12 12 0 Mr N Fehilly (5)					
÷		REPEAT THE DOSE (8) IF R Jackson S Breen # 12 0 Mr T McCarthy					
3		POLITICAL SAM (40) (D) (Nr. V Schutz) J Porter to 120 . Mr B Kendellen (7)					
:		KING OF CLARE (12) (D) (D Murphy) D Murphy 7 12 0					
¢		CHISM (27) (D) iJ Webbon Man L After 6 12 0 Mr J D Moore (5)					
5	L TUL	BAS DE LARME (FR) (562) (C) (Mrs P Tatley) Mrs P Totoy 13 12 0. Mr A Hickman (7)					
4	,F:J4	AIRTRAK (20) (D) (Mrs R Plungton) Mrs R Plungton to 120					
-	24.2%	LOYAL NOTE (11) (D) (R Andrews) S Andrews 11 12 4 Mr S Andrews					
-	30-5r	COPPER THISTLE (12) (D) (R S Humsett) Mrs C Baley # 124 Mr R Humbatt (7)					

Lucal Sam, 16-1 Tug Of Pages, 20-1 others (A) Liver Conference S if 2 Mr C Alors Hardon (7) 7-4 (A Nation) 3 page

#### FORM GUIDE

Tinotops: Decret nurser pent-to-pointer who is the form pick here on last time out of conditive and to Varyance in well contested hunters chose at Haydock Has wen en good of the pant.

Copper Thistie: Dual winner of mone opens recently last time 35-length winner at

Durithrop ignoid ground; Another promitions showing can be expected the whore; I wroning hunter pointer Seasonal februs seven-longit second to Stat-tivide But at Plumpton documt book quito good enough against principals Autralia Marked improvement needed, last time over 13 lengths fourth behind Call Home

Authority of Charte, in better form the Sousce than the first to length court opened Call Home in more other of Charten. See and surely word be as good as no was at age of 30 Chairs. Wheney powers but form, tast arrown in the right that to Purises Overhead in a Lathing open depend took good enough.

King Of Charte, in better form the Sousce than tast, following. Market Resen will wish interest to record or interest of the court of thirtiers. Meno may end to use that pullcosts sound in interference to account materials, being a country and reason with the Political Semi: Recent form, including 25-longth second to Wigdnesday's Folkestone support Halls Mill on recent sousonal debut at Twesoldown, and up to the mark Report The Deep: Well with victorial debut at Twesoldown, and though once smart, a hard to fancy on most ruction evidence.

is rary to make recent evidence. They of Peece: Rain much better than bure facts of 36-length fifth to Stallbudge Bill on recent sectoral sectoral at Pumptom might suggest, but much more needed now VERDICT: TINOTOPS has very solid credentatio. His Haydoph second on his respectance recently came in a Settor-confested race than this and a reproduction of

	2.55	CLUBHOUSE NOVICE HURDLE (CL 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,009	ASS D)	£4,000	) added
:	aut Pa	BLUESHAAN (13) (D) (JE Brown) C Murry 6 11 2 .		٠:	J Mages

-	22)	COH SHO NO (64) (CO) (H Nassi 5 Dow 6 ft 2
Ş		AUDIACTER (18) Mrs C Zater-Watch L Wats 6 10 to
2		BROWNINGS BOY (22) (E Noyfor) J Cifford 7 to 12
5	2	DOC RYAN'S (5) (P.) Flam) (1) Ryan 5 TO 12
5		KINGS VEAN (Nes O Whosever) J King 7 to to
7	13.67	MANNA BRAVE (AS) (W.) Totuso A.H.Havey 5 to 12 J.A.McCartry
5		MOTET (43) (H.J. Jarves) Al Pitman 5 TO C
9	:Filt	PERCY PARKEEPER (50) (Ur & Mrs P Cran) N Turston Curves 6 to 2 . C Linnedyn
ς.		STR SAMPLE (21) ibs L Agrani K Bulky & 10 12
÷	12.0	SOUTHERNHAY BOY (29) (I) C CC2101 Ltrs S Williams 8 10 C S Wynne
Ξ		STRONG CABINET (N Cooper) Mass V Walarts & 10 12
2	0	TOMMY HOTSPURI (121) (At & Mrs J Poynteril I Waterns 6 TC 12 C Maude
		A Thomas C 10 Thom

SETTING: 100-30 Bluesham, 9-2 Doc Ryan's, Strong Cabhad, 5-1 Coh Sho No, 11-2 Pency Par-keeper, 9-1 Model, 14-1 Audiciter, Sir Samuel, 29-1 others 395 Kng/tschalpe Scal 7 to 12 N Williamson 6-5 far (Mas; V Williams) 7 ran

#### FORM GUIDE

Stueshaen: Has not progressed from Chestrow win but back to form trad to Nock-sky in Haydock handcap last time (2nut, mistake at last didn't help). Decent chance Coh Sho No: Winning stayor on Flat who has taken well to hurdles. Course and dis-tance win gives her decent chance but absence since below-par 47-length last of seven to Barton at Sandown is a concern (reluctant to tine up there). Audiction: Ability in burnpers but well-beaten 38-length bourth to Master Pilgrim on recent hurdles debut at Fontwell (2nd), very soft ground). Open to intercomment Brownings Boy: Well beaten over hurdles, last time pulled up behind ismeno off lawly most at Necestric Not eastly burned. mark at Towcester, Not easily lancaed

Doc Ryan's: For winning stayer on Flat who did well enough when 10-length second to decont-looking Arctic Fancy at Foliostone on recent hardes debut (2m15)

Kingle Weart: Beated decution son or kingles, hard has been whenly out or form Manna Brawe: Poor form over hurdles, last time pulled up at 40-1 behind Supreme Day at Fekenham. Hard to fampy Motet: Useful stayer at best on Flat. Only glimmer of ability over hurdles, last time 25-length severith to good recruit. The Fly at Newbury (2m, seedily-run race). This is ess-

ler and probably capable of better residence of the state of the s

temple second to the second se

going)
Southernhay Boy: Bumper winner who ran better than distant eighth to Seize The Day at Wincarton implies (costly mistake and first run for 15 morphs). Lot to find Strong Calbinet: Belated debut for this son of Strong Gale. Yard in fine form and should be watched in betting market. Townsy Notspur: 25-length 14th in Cheltenham bumper on debut. Others preferred Stammworthy Miss: Some ability over hundles, last time over 23 lengths fifth to Country House at Warwick. Market improvement required.

VERDICT: A below-per race for the track in which only a handful at most can be seriously known. With his fair test time out Haydock third heralding a return to form, BLUE-SHAAN can see off Coh Sho No, who goes well here but who has something to prove after her well-beaten last run.

3.25 MANOR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 3m Panalty Value £4,182

1	42-521	CHEERFUL ASPECT (22) (Lady Pleagton) H Daly 6 11 9	R Jotana
2	/29-14	EMERALD STATEMENT (34) (D) (Hon Mrs C Yeales) D Grissel 9 TI 9	A Thoma
3	2392-2	KING'S BANKER (21) (D) (JEH Colles) N Henderson 8 18 5	A A Fibruery
4		LAURA LUGS (13) (R Hambro) Mrs M Hambro 7 ft 5	
5	F324PP	NATIVE PLAYER (20) (N Cooper) R Rome 7 TI 5	L Aso
6	27.47	STRONG PALADIN (69) (Mrs A Brodie) 7 Cesey 6 11 5	J Cabor
7	60P-F4	SWEET LORD (22) (I S Networking Solutions) J Old 8 11 5	_TJ Mkmo
		-7 declared -	•
BET	TING: 2-1	1 King's Banker, 9-4 Cheerful Aspect, 4-1 Strong Paladin, 13-2 Emera	dd Statume
10-1	Serent L	ord, 14-1 Helive Player, 50-1 Leure Logs	
1998	Nearly 4	An Sye 7 17 5 T J Marphy 4-7 fav (P Nicholis) 3 pan	

Cheerful Aspect: Quite decent hurder who followed unlucky second on cheering debut at Warwick with 13 length diefeat of Spring Double over 2mft at Towcester Emerald Statement: Quite useful hurder who won well on chasing debut (runner-up Aparus wither since) before breaking blood vessel when well beaten as time King's Bankert Farry useful hurdes form and decent neck second to Ever Blessed (pair dean) on recent chasing debut it because (sin, soft). Decent form chance Laura Logger Not easily lambed even on best form, a Waresster third to Zestoon and has been pulled up in a humpris' chase since

Native Player: Fair second to Lets Be Frank at Laxcester (2m4f) but pulled up lest two trines and has firsted at stamma limitations, so longer trip a definite worry. Strong Paladin: Still writess after rane runs over fences but has often kept good com-Sary, roluting when 12-length second to Kuraida at Accol last time (2). Sweet Lond: Lightly raced and better than bare form of two chasing runs suggest, last time 51-length fourth to Cheerful Aspect at Towcester

VERDICT: An interesting novices' chase in which KING'S BANKER, Cheerful Aspect and Strong Patedin have the strongest form claims. Preference for King's Banker is based on the assumption that the form of his only run over fences is broadly on a par with that of the other two yet he is probably the one of the three most open to im-

### 3.55 DINE AT THE JUBILEE CLUB HANDICAP HUR-DLE (CLASS D) 25,000 2m 5f Penalty Value 23,680

7	20	ABOO HOM (345) (Kammac Pic) M Pipe 5 12 ()	A P MeC
2	4 (P)	CALL MY GUEST (F29) (D) (D & Mrs J P Clee) R Psecock 9 TI 9	. M A Fitzoera
3	Q1P-2	SCORREG PEDIGREE (14) (CD) (Wisiord Report) J Mulins 7 T/R	A Thoma
4	EP-34	FAR DAWN (USA) (S7) IP Wegand) Ms A Perrett 6 11 8	C Man
5	1006-4	MINE O THERE (38) (Sidelord Tool Ltd) Mrs S Williams 10 ft 1	JOSE
€	20303	AMAZE (95) 1. acy Kathama Philips) Lady Herres To 10 10	W Canadana
7	CTG-45	LORD YORK (20) (7 Option) H Daily 7 to 10	R Dotteron
8	370G D	DAMS (FR) (8) (D) (C Stanking) J Jerkes 10 10 10	J Oshor
3	-32	GO GO HIENRY (35) (SP) IF N De Wide) R Alner 7 10 8	R Johns
£	.466-0	TUKANO (CAN) (9) (Mrs T McCoutrey) J Jeniers 8 10 2	M Griffithe (
tt	31-400	Fil.scot (91) (D) (P J Worgan) C Morbock 7 100	A McCod
72	40.50	ROYAL PIPER (NZ) (84) (A M Darlington) A J Wilson 12 10 0	ر پیرون میں اور ان است. سوال کا انتخاب ک
ā	76.31	DARRING KING (FSB) (Cleave Stables) M Bolton 9 10 0.	المراد المحسد المساوي
~		= 13 darkered -	(Africanta) (
		- 13 0000100 -	•

Misconum weight: 10st. True-narchicap weights: Filecot Set 72b, Repai Piper Set 7th, Danny King 8st 9th. BETTING: 5-2 Scoring Pedigree, 7-2 Lord York, 5-1 Call My Guest, 6-1 Amaze, 15-2 Aboo Hom, 10-1 Mine O Three, 12-1 Far Dawn, Go Go Henry, 16-1 Filecot, 25-1 others 1998: Sa Agap Mou 5 1t 21 Fi Damenody 15-8 (G.L. Moere) 5 ran

#### FORM GUIDE

Aboo Notic Fair performer on the Flat who was quite a useful hunder lest season, bed run was a four-length second to Borazon at Lingfield (also won at Haydook). Faces

Call My Guest: Capable furties who was decent five length that to easy winner Tustries on last hurdes nut. at Cheltening in December Far run on Flat last time Scoring Pedigner: Useful bumper horse who won over course and distance in trunon over hurdes. Good second to Lady Choket on recent seasonal debut

as Newbuy and very fairly breazed off 2to higher mark
Fair Dawis: Well transceaped on old form but this season's pelormances – last time
a 33-length fourth to Just Nip at Fornivel – len't good enough, Faster ground will suit.

Nine O Three: Respected on best form but sessonal debut tourth (bealen over 22 Nine O Three: Respected on best form but sessional debut fourth (bealer over 22 lengths) to Vent d'Acut at Taunton, doesn't look good enough America Feir placet form this session last time over 11 lengths that to Antiquan Piyer at Windom in November. This St longer trip a definite worry for this former mile Lord York Farry treated on best form and last time out fifth (beaten over 38 lengths) to Kates Charm at Uttaveter came in better grade and on very heavy ground Digists Well beaten on last week's belated return to action. Hard to faincy Go Go Henry: Former heavy-ground maiden hurdle winner whose recent efforts over fences, last time second to Hightown Cavalier at Taunton, need improving upon here fundance vegenerated assists seven to From it balloy (easy variation) wither years-day) at Foliassione recently, attest on return from 15-month absence from course. Not easily fancied

Filecot: Possibilities at decent price on some form so one to consider, daspite having not not since well below-pair 76-length seventh to Bramblehill Duke at Newbury in No-

Royal Piper: Hard to win with and wants further than today's trip. Off course since teir 17-length third to Arctic Chanter at Exeter (2m7f) in early December Darling King: Arguably best at Fontwell and has stiff task at weights

VERDICT: SCORING PEDIGREE makes plenty of appeal here. His is still very fair-ly treated off a 2b higher mark than when a good second to the classy Lady Crick-et on his seasonal debut at Newbury and this race looks manginally less competitive. Lord York is the best attendative.

#### 4.30 PORTLANE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £7,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £5,038 FISF- BOARDROOM SHUPPLE (307) (D) (BF) (A D Weller) J G/ford 8 12 0.....

-		DESCRIPTION AND AN AN AN AN AND AND AND AND AND AN
2	U3-6F1	PEACE LORD (69) (D) (Sir Peter & Lady (Ribbings) Mrs D Heine 9 11 11
3	3/11-3	WISE KING (108) (D) (BP) (D Mana) J Old 9 17 10
	35UP6	SOUND REVELLE (14) (C) (Mrs G Abecsesis) Miss H Kright 11 11 B
5	U3-124	MILLCROFT RIVERA (77) (CD) (BP) (J Carter) R Alter 8 1( 1
5	1F4/0P	PLUNDER BAY (57) (D) (W V & Mrs E S Robins) N Henderson 8 10 10 . M A Fitzgerald
7	4h P4	NOT MY LINE (18) (W Cauchell) W Cauchell 10 10 7
		-7 declared -
	TIME 24	Bears ( and B.4 Wies Klay 100.30 Bearings Shuffe 11.2 Hillowit Divisor 6.1

BETTING: 2-1 Pasce Lord, 9-4 Was King, 100-30 Beardree Sound Ravella, 14-1 Plunder Bay, 50-1 Not My Line. 1998: Millordt Filvera 7 10 9 A Thombon 6-5 lav (R Ainer) 5 zan

#### FORM GUIDE

Boardroom Shuffle: Formerly very useful novice hurdler whose chequered chasing career last season saw him win at Exister but ended with odds-on fall at Market Rasen (2mill). Off since April but has good first time out record and potentially well handsee Lord: Capable chaser who won nicely at Warwick lest time from Grenon.

Peace Lord: Capable chaser who won notely at Warwick last time from Gratoms (2m45f). Conditions ideal and should go well off 6th higher mark. Wise Kings Lightly raced chaser who won lest season's only run over fences (at Sendown) but was only fair 9-length third to Moon Devil at Newbury in November Sound Reveille: Formerly very smart chaser but has done all his winning at 2m. Fair fel-length sixth to Country Star at Newbury last time (2m1t chopped 8th since) Milicroft Riviera: Won this last season and only 1th higher in ratings but last time out distant fourth to Act in Time at Chellenham needs improving upon. Will appreciate today's sound surface.

Plunder Bay: Does not seem as good as he was ance being injured and pulled up nut behind Cardrial Rule at Warwick last time doesn't look good amough Not My Line: 36-length fourth to in The Blood at Fontwell last time. Hard to fancy VERDICT: Good recent form is in short supply here. PEACE LORD won well at War-wick and today's conditions are ideal for him. He should go well again despite being 5to higher in the ratings now.

### 5.00 KEMPTON PARK 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m Penaity Value £2,892

41	HARDLY (43) (D) (Earl Cadogari) Miss H Knight 6 11 4	
80-F3	BORIOTOWN LORD (S8) (M Roberts) M Roberts 6 71 0	M A Fibror
	GARE HILL (M S Wilson) J Gifford 5 11 C.	0 Витов
20	LEABURN (14) (BP) (Guiburi Set) P Hobbs 8 11 0	CW
	MAYBESEVEN (Damond Seen Partnershp) M Wildrech 5 ft ()	Ċ Lienn
120-5	RURBHING WATER (43) (D) (H Spooner) P Hedger 8 ti O	M Rich
0405-0	SOUTHDOWN LAD (39) (Exclusive Partnershot R Rowe 5 ft ()	П.Ро
2-20	STAR OF DUNGANNON (60) (M'S L M Sewel) M Pipe 6 11 0	APMo
00-00	TUDOR KING (99) (JR Kniech) J King 5 ti Q	TJ Min
OO-	PERSPOLLA (293) (Lord Vestey) Miss H Knight 5 10 9	l Oebr
024003	PROPER PRIMITIVE (43) (Coskett Partnership) C Drewe 6 10 9	A Thom
0.0	WITHESWAAY LADY (57) (Mrs L Baker) E Wheeler 6 109	
•••	- 12 decisted -	

BETTING: 2-1 Leaburn, 9-4 Hardly, 7-2 Star Of Dunganoon, 19-Lord, 16-1 Gare Hill, 20-1 Proper Pricelike, 25-1 officers 988: Andamic 7 to G.R. Dunwoody 10-11 fee (Lady Hemes) 10 ran

#### FORM GUIDE

Herdily: Fulfilled promise of bumper debut fourth when capitalising on the swerve of the previously unbeaten Boro Sovereign to win at Wincardon (2m). Decent chance Borotown Lord: Some ability over hurdies, last time over lour-length third to Deep C Diva (winner again smoe) at Stratford in December. Bit more needed to win this

Gare Hills: First run for this son of Ansocracy. Will probably need the experience Leaburns Bustled up useful triple winner Sentabless at Taunton (2m3.5) before un-seating when in second at Bangor. Drop in Irip not a major wony-he traveled smooth-by and held his place easily at Taunton- and very much one for short-less. Maybeewers: First run for this son of Baron Blakaney. Yard's runners rarely win on

Running Water: Ability in bumpers but well-beaten 38-length fifth to Hardly on test morth's hurdes debut at Wincarton. Yard had welcome wanter on Wednesday Southstown Lad: Some ability in bumpers but tailed off 13th to useful All Gong on last mortifs hurdes debut at Donesdar. Others much preferred Star of Dungarines: Reportedly well-regarded and showed ability in first two runs, especially when spitting subsequent winners when second to Prosty Carryon in Chepstow bumper in November. Tailed off since but very much respected on hurdles debut Trador King Well-begien in bumpers and over hurdles. Easy to oppose Perarofite: Well tailed off in two bumpers, latterly behind Hoh hwader lest May at Worcester. Marked improvement needed on hurdles debut Proper Printitive: Some ability over hurdles but no reason why she should overhum last month's third (begien over 27 lengths) to Hardly at Wincartion.
Withseweap Lady: Well beaten in two bumpers, last time 30 lengths behind Perk Allert at Warnesk Improvement required on hurdles debut now.
VERNDICT: HARDLY is namely organized to Leaburn in an interestion Hitle over. The

VERDICT: HARDLY is namewhy preferred to Leaburn in an interesting little race. The former cid well to best a previously unbeaten clust burnper winner on last months Wincarton hurdes debut and probably has more improvement to come. Running Wester is a possible each way alternative at a bigger proc.

WINCANTON Going: Good to Soft

1.35: (2m novice chase)
1. COUNTRY BEAU \_A P McCoy 13-8 tav
2. Andariho \_\_\_\_\_\_ J Geborne 3-1
3. Bouchasson \_\_\_\_\_ R Widger 10-1
Also: 5-8 Distant Echo, 50-1 Just Bayard, Alter: 15-8 Distant Echo, 50-1 Just Bayard, 200-1 Nora Fogherty, 6 ram. 6, 8. (winner bay gelding by Town And Country out of Chenelle trained by J King at Swindon for Mrs J J Pepplatt, Totac win 22:05; (Score £140, £170, DF: £3:30, CSF: £6:5).

Warray lotte wil FIEL DF: CL3L CSF: CL5L
3.10: (2nt Kingwell Hurdle)
1. GREY SHOT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Caborns 4-6 fav
2. Midnight Legend \_\_\_\_\_ R. Johnson 5-1
3. Upgrade \_\_\_\_\_\_ C Llawellyn (6-1
Also: 13-2 Chai-Yo (6th), 8-1 Fataliste
(5th), 8-1 Benston (4th).
6 ran. 2½. 4, 5. 8, 15. (winner grey geiding
by Stancod out of Optavis trained by I Balding at Kingodere for R Hitchiss.) Tota: win
1.70: places CL5O, 1200. DF: 5330.

4.15: (2m maiden hurdle) 1. ESTATE AGENT

cutier.

12 rim. 10, 4, 216, 116, 6. (winner bey mare by El Conquissador out of Hot W Scopey trained by J Tuck at Dubmarton for Ruby Red Partnership). Tote: win £2,70; places £140, £2,00, £2,60. DF: £5,90. CSF: £3,72.

5.20: (2m NH Rist race)
1. MESTRE SALA
2. As Lac
3. Celhoun 

Placepot: 25130, Quadpot: \$13.30. Place 6: 270,98, Place 5: 245,86

Going: Good to Soft 1.45: 1. BERLIN BLUE (R Thornton) 9-2 fav; 2. Ashgan 25-1; 3. Wantworth 33-1; 4. Billy Normalite 10-1: 21 ran. 2, 2. (R Stronge) Totac 5:20; 5:20, 5:20, 5:20, 5:20, 0:5: 0:0:70, CSF: £112:20 Tricast: £305568. NP; Surprise 2.15: 1. SMARTY (A Magure) 5-2 fav; 2. Yanida Lord 11-4; 3. Total Joy 13-2. 10 ran. 8; 10. (Mrs.) Pitman). Tota: £3.50; £1.70, £160. £160 DF: £5.00. CSF: £9.55. Tricast: £36.£2.

2.50: 1. TIRALDO (A Farrant) 5-4 fav; 2. Ma 2.50: 1. 1175-1-12. Edger 8-1; 3. Heavens Above 20-1 5 150: 18, 2 (H Day), Tota: \$2.40; \$140, \$140, \$150. 18, 2 (H Day), Tota: \$2.40; \$140, \$140, \$150. DF: £770. CSF: £924. NR: Jakes Justice. 3.25: 1. DANGERUS PRECEDENT (D Gat lagher) 1-3 fev; 2. Albrighton 4-1; 3. Stop-watch 200-1 7 ran. 3/4, 17. (C Egenton). Tole: £130; £100, £350. DF: £210, CSF: £182. NF:

SM Wese's. 4.00: 1. MR BOSTON (Mr.J P McNemara) 14-1; 2. Destin D'Estruval evens fav; 3. Trade Dispute 4-1, 14 ran. ½, 1½, (R Wood-house). Tote: £16.20; £3.40, £1.30, £1.70. DF; £1.40. CSF: £24.99.

17140 CSF: 22499.
4.30: 1. OSCAIL AN OORAS (Mr. J.P. Mc-Namera) 2-1 /l fav; 2. Robins Pride 11-2; 3. Black Statement 14-1.6 ran. 2-1 /t fav O My Love (brought down) 3/; 28. (F. Murphy). Tota: 2320; 2150, 5190. DF: 2880. CSF: 2160. 2320; 2150; 5150; 0150; 0150; 057; 5160; 5300; 1. NOUVEAU CHEVAL, 6/4 AC-Carthyl 5-2; 2. Palatial 15-8 fav; 3. Buck-skin Camseo 7-1 21 ran. 8, 9. (M Pips). Tota; 2400; 210; 0130; 0250. DF; 6400; CSF; 2572. NF; Alisande.

### Jackpot: £2,558.30. Placepot: £13.90. Curadpot: £5.70. Place 5: £3.42. Place 5: £2.62.

LINGFIELD Going: Standard 1.25: 1. RED BROOK LAD (P Doe) 14-1; 2. Pertemps Mission 11-2; 3. Red Raja 11-4 fax 10 ran. 7.2h. (S Dow). Rote: 2830; 2560, 2160, 5190 DF; 28030 CSP: \$7863. Theast: 25:19.
1.55:1. PRIODIGAL SON (N Polistri) 6-1; 2.
Kansawa 7-1; 3. Ki Chi Saga 8-1, 12 ran.
9-2 ta: Baguile, Nr. 3½. (Mrs V Ward), Tote:
28.00; 24.30, E7.0, E2.60, DF: E23.70, CSF:
28.78 Total: CSSP.

248.78. Trosst: 5228.74.
2.25: 1. LAW DANCER (Liss Hackett) 10-1;
2. Key fo The City 13-5 fax; 3. Ceemarton Bay 10-30, 3 can. 11/4, 31/4, (T. Miss), 104e: 51230; 5330, 5130, 5100, 5100. DF: \$1800. CSF: 52540, NR: Shanghai LI
3.00: 1. SLEANE SILK (J. Cairn) 7-4 fav; 2. Behind The Scenas 7-2; 3. Artic Courier 6-1 9 ran. 6, 4 (W. Masson), Tolar 5.270; 5130, 5130, 6220, DF: 5480, CSF: 5258, Tricast: 5128.

13128. 3.35: 1. MUKARRAB (A Culterne) 8-4; 2. Half Tone 15-8 faz; 3. Friendly Brave 11-1, 5 ran. 1/s, rik. (D Chapman), Tore: £350; £120, £120 DF: £340. CSF: £848.

Dr. 1240. CSF: 2848 4.10: 1. SUMMER BOUNTY IA Eddaryl 5-6 for; 2. Billichang 18-1; 3. King Flyer 5-2. 5 ran, 9.3%. (B Hills). Tota: 2160; 210; 53:00 CF: 1800. CSF: 51388. NP: Tick N. Pick. 4.40: 1. GENNUS (\*) Dos) 9-1; 2. Marrisob 11-1; 3. Powder River 4-1 tav. 11 ran. 4; hd. (\$ Dow). Tober £880; £330; £430; £130 DF: £5830. CSP: £8830. Tricast £42360. 5.10: 1. MUTABARI (J Cultri) 14-1: 2. Acid Rest 0-1: 3. Science Ridge 11-2: 8 ray. 11-10 fav Redoubtable (911) 14, 6. (Mrs. S Lamy. man). Teta: \$1690: 5370. 5270. \$100. 05-\$38.70. CSF: \$128.70. Tricast: \$753.28 Placepot: £1290. Quadpot: £340. Place 6: £2403. Place 5: £1201.

\*THE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 971 981 KEMPTON MARKET RASEN | 972 982 SOUTHWELL 973 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

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Marie and Marie

# Garcia strokes ahead of his hero

THOSE COGNISANT in the art of spread betting knew they were on to a good thing when one firm predicted the difference between the two-round scores of Seve Ballesteros and Sergio Garcia in the Desert Classic would be six shots. Even allowing for the fact that the 19-year-old amateur, Garcia, was expected to prevail, the 12 (1 Youngster's 10-shot lead after the first round at Dubai Creek will have delighted those invested in him.

On the more demanding second nine, Ballesteros dropped seven strokes, including a triple-bogey at the last, while Garcia made five birdies and dropped only one stroke in a 68 which left him in a group just one behind the leaders. Paul McGinley and Phil Price.

As pleased as he was with his own round, Garcia finds no joy in his hero's current decline. "It makes me really sad." Garcia said. "But something inside tells me Seve is going to come back. I'm sure. Probably, he won't be the player he was but I'm sure he is going to win tournaments.

Garcia, the British amateur champion. is sure to be as prolific a collector of titles when he turns pro as he has been as an amateur. The baton is poised to exchanged: Garcia lies just two places behind Ballesteros in the lower reaches of the

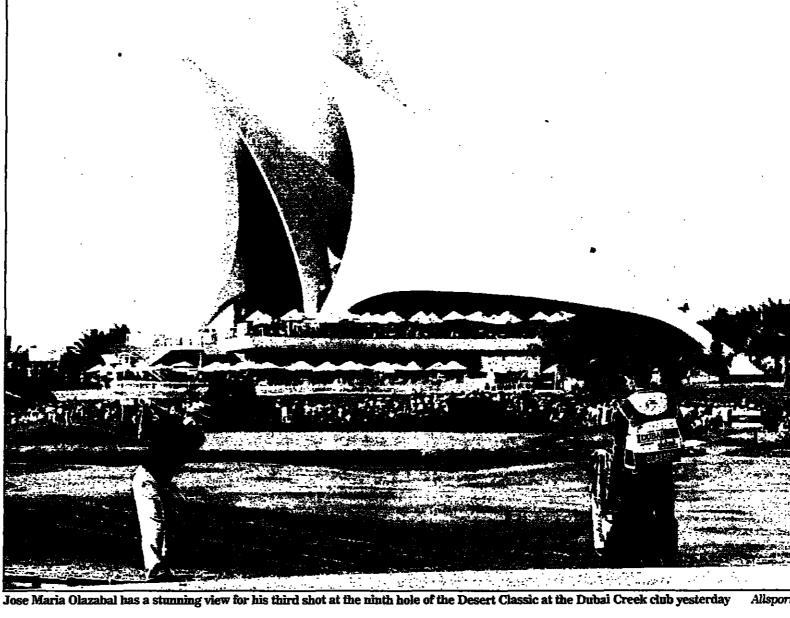


the Spanish Open in April, after Garcia has played in the US Masters. "I want to turn pro with everything OK, everything ready," was all he would sav yesterday. Yet, he is not thinking of playing in any more amateur tournaments and has already competed in a Spanish mini-tour event, finishing one stroke outside a play-off won by Miguel Angel Jimenez.

Garcia was 29th at the Open at Royal Birkdale, 25 places behind Justin Rose, but the contrast between the prototype pro and the hapless one is stark indeed. Rose went to the turn in 41 and then had a triplebogey eight at his last hole, the ninth, which included a penalty shot for hitting on to the first fairway when not realising it was out of bounds.

Rose matched Ballesteros's 78 and today faces the prospect of taking his pro career record to played 13, missed 13 cuts. "I don't think that what happened to Justin could happen to me," Garcia said. "We are different players. It could happen to me, but I don't know."

What he avoided yesterday, which was no mean feat, was a crippling high score on any one hole despite the areas of short grass being in short according to McGinley. Mont-His pro debut will likely be at supply compared to those of gomerie's 70 was three behind



thick rough (almost unplayable) and water (completely unplayable). Nick Faldo missed 12 greens in his 75 while the defending champion. Jose Maria Olazabal, was tied for the lead playing the 18th but pushed his drive into the water and the double-bogey dropped him one behind Garcia.

The acknowledged world expert in coping with such conditions is Colin Montgomerie.

the Irishman but his only dropped shot came from an early three-putt while the dew was still on the greens. "What surprised me was that Colin did not have a driver in his bag." McGinley said.

The Scot kept to his threewood or an iron off the tee and covered the 395-yard third in two five-irons. Though the policy forced him to lay up at the last after fractionally missing the fairway, Montgomerie saved par by holing from 25 feet.

"It shows he knows how to play this type of course," McGinley added. "He doesn't care about distance, just get the ball on the short grass. He is very patient.

McGinley hardly strayed off the fairways, either, and took the opportunities that presented themselves on the greens, three of his six birdies coming from within eight feet. A former Gaelic footballer, the 32-year-old's current goal is to recapture his fitness level from when he was 19 and his role as a half-forward in the Dublin junior team was to

"get the ball and run like hell". "It is not completely essential but getting fit is part of being a top player who plays all year round," said McGinley, who has a makeshift gym in his garage at Sunningdale. "It is no coincidence that the top two players in the world, Woods and Duval, are probably the fittest." For the record, Sergio Garcia has had a personal trainer since the age of 11.

in the lead after the first round of the Australian Masters yesterday. Spence shot a nineunder-par 64 on the revamped

course to finish three shots clear of the field. Another Australian, Peter McWhinney, and an American, Robin Byrd, were tied for second on 67. Greg Norman had a one-over-par 74 while Gary Player, now 63, opened with a tidy round of 70. Scores, Digest, page 31

### Gales destroy Hall's mast

SAILING

BY STUART ALEXANDER

THE REMAINING British Class I competitor went crashing out of contention in the Around Alone Race when Josh Hall reported that his 60ft Gartnere had lost its mast in heavy seas and gale force winds. A message he sent to the organisers said: "Disaster, Lost the mast an hour ago and am just about finished cutting it away.

"It failed below the firs spreader by the look of it. Hull and deck appear intact and I have salvaged the staysail. Will be setting jury rig and aim to head for the Chatham Islands to regroup." he added.

Hall was about 230 miles south-east of the little group of islands off the south-west tip of New Zealand and will be able to motor at about five miles an hour. As an additional precaution, the American Brad Van Liew, in the Class II 50-footer Balance Bar, has been asked to divert his course and rendezvous with Hall, who was also suffering from cold and influenza, to offer any assistance.

Hall's misfortune means only three Class I competitors remain in the third leg of the race, from Auckland round Cape Horn to Punta del Este: the overall leader. Isabelle Autissier of France: her compatriot, Marc Thiercehn: and

the Italian Giovanni Soldini. The first-leg winner. Mike Golding, retired after running aground in Group 4 close to the end of the second leg from Cape Town, But another Briton, Mike Garside, has been leading Class II in Magellan Alpha.

#### Clifton double the dose

BY BILL COLWILL

GRAHAM CULLIFORD, Clifton Scottish Life's manager, will have one eye on the weather and one on his flu-stricken players as the club edge their way forward to their tourth successive women's Cup final appearance in a double head-

er this weekend. But first Clifton travel to East Anglia to take on the National League leaders, Ipswich. The teams then move to Firebrands ground in Bristol for the fifth-

round Cup game on Sunday. Clifton edged home in a nine-goal thriller against Doncaster last weekend with a depleted side, while Ipswich, six points clear in the Premier Division, comfortably beat Sutton Coldfield 4-1.

The good news for Olton Terraquest visiting Slough is that Kerry Moore is fit again but the Midland side will be without Lucilla Wright, who is recovering from a leg operation.

# Swann sets up a charge

A FINE spell of bowling from Graeme Swann and an unbeaten 60 from the England captain, Michael Vaughan, put the tourists on course for victory in the second A Test

nere vesterday. England boast a lead of 282 at the end of the third day at the Queens Club after a Zimbabwean collapse saw the hosts %7 halls - four of them to Swann at short leg. and finish their first innings

trailing by 160. Vaughan then continued the attack with the bat, and his fellow opener Darren Maddy hit 28, including a six and four fours, before he was caught behind off Bryan Strang with the partnership at 50.

Vaughan went on in steady fashion, reaching 49 where be spent 33 minutes and lost two partners.

Mal Loye, who made 133 in the first innings, fell for nine when he tried to lift Andy Whittall over mid-on where Stuart

BY MARK HARGREAVES in Bulawayo

England A 383 & 122-3 Zimbabwe A 223

Carlisle took the catch running back. Robert Key pulled a short ball from the same bowler lose five wickets in the space of and Guy Whittall took the catch

> Andrew Flintoff came in and his unbeaten 21 while Vaughan eventually got to his 50 off 102 balls and with seven fours.

> Swann revealed that with England in control, the captain had promised his team-mates to help complete the job today. "We're very happy with the position in the match," the

Northamptonshire off-spinner said. "Michael Vaughan assures me he's going to get a big century and then we're going to bowl them out and win

for England, with

Durham's Steve Harmison once again generating hostile pace. He struck Carlisle on the forearm before later claiming his wicket thanks to an outstanding catch by Loye at third

Dirk Viljoen was the one batsman to appear unruffled by Harmison's pace, or the probing attack of Jason Lewry. He took Zimbabwe past the

launched some lusty blows in follow-on mark before being run out at the wicketkeeper's end as Maddy's return from deep square-leg was transferred to the bowler by Chris Read. That dismissal - from the last ball before lunch heralded the spectacular collapse.

Swann had gone in to lunch with the unflattering figures of 10-1-46-0. He came out to take 4 for 6 in 31 balls. Bryan Strang was caught by Harmison at deep midwicket. Andy Whittail was snapped up off bat-pad by

Maddy at deep midwicket. Swann then wrapped up the

innings when Key caught Adam Huckle at short leg, to give England a commanding first innings lead.

Third day, England A wan toss
ENGLAND A - First lanings 383 IM B
Loye 133, V 5 Solarkii 65, D L Maddy 64,
A R Whittal 4-88. B C Strang 4-107).
ZUMBASHIE A - First lanings ZIMISABRIE A - FIRST IMMEN (Overnight: 94 for 4) F V Carlisle c Loye b Harmison D P Vilgon c Maddy b Swann A M Bilgnaut run out B C Strang c Harmison b Swann A R Whitrall c Key b Swann A G Huckle c Key b Swarm ..... Extras (b4 lb4 w1 nb5) ...... Total (83.1 overs) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_223 Fall (cont): 5-125 6-202 7-208 8-208 9-219.

**Bowling:** Lewry 18-6-52-0; Harmis 17-6-29-2: Fluoroff 13-5-25-1. Cost 

Palls 1-50 2-87 3-90.
To bats V S Solanki, C P Swann, tC M W Read, D A Cosker, J D Lewry, S J Harmison, Bowilling: Strang 14-5-37-1; Bligmaut 4-2-16-0; G J Whittail 10-5-25-0; A R Whittail 52-27-2; Huckle 9-3-17-0.
Unspiress G R Exins and E J Gilmour.

#### Women in Gough's stand at MCC secures draw

INVITATIONS HAVE been issued to five women cricketers asking them to apply to become playing members of MCC.

Lucy Mullens, a PE teacher at Taunton School, Somerset, is the only one named by the club. The MCC voted last year to scrap a 211-year tradition of banning women from joining

the all-male club and an MCC spokesman. Stuart Weatherhead, said yesterday that to join the woman have to play a number of qualification matches and be nominated by three current members. Mullens, 24, first started

playing cricket at 18 while a pupil at the private school where she now teaches. She was asked to stand in for an absent player during a game. "I am absolutely thrilled to have been asked to apply," she said. "I love cricket, so being

asked to join is a great honour.

Hopefully, I will be a bit of a role

sion, England preserve a 1-0 lead in the series. England were set 221 to win after bowling the Kiwis for 335. They started well but collapsed from 58 for 1 to 58 for 4 in one over, with Michael Carberry and Giles Haywood out for ducks.

spirit as they battled for a draw

in the second Test against New

Zealand Under-19 in Wellington

vesterday. Having come close

to winning in a tense final ses-

MICHAEL GOUGH, the Eng- NZ Under-19 110 & 335

However, Gough made 69 before being caught at extra cover off James Franklin. Gough's departure left England on 149 for 6, but Matt Bulbeck, believing England could still win, and his Somerset team-mate Joe Tucker, both batting with runners, then held out until the close to finish on 191 for 6, 30 runs short of their victory target.

land Under-19 captain, was im- England U-19 225 & 191-6 pressed with his team's fighting Match drawn

Final day of four, England won loss
NEW ZEALAND UNDER-19 - First
Imalings 110 (J R Incher 5-35)
ENGLAND UNDER-19 - First Innings
225 (M A Gough II IS; H Shaw 5-59).
NZ UNDER-19 - Second Innings
(Overingh 307 for 6)
IP McGlashan b Dawson 23
M Hendry c Wallace b Bridge 8
B Martin not out 2
I Hammond c sub b Dawson 0
Bitras (D15 Ib) 2
Total (171.4 overs) 3-335
Pall (coat): 7-321 8-335 9-335
Pall (coat): 7-321 8-325
Pall (coat): 7-321 8-325
Pall (coat): 7-321 8-325
Pall (coat): 7-321 8-325
Pall

GLAND U-19 - Second Innings 

RACING RESULTS

LINGFIELD Going: Standard

2.00: (km 5t, amateur riders' hand 2.00: (tm st, amateur meers nanocap)

1. BigGwing \_\_\_\_\_Mr 1 Mongan 4-1 jt tav

2. Time Can Tell \_\_\_\_\_Mr A Evans 9-1

3. Nosey Native \_\_\_\_\_Mrs L Pearce 7-1

Also: 4-1 jt fav Philosophic (6th), 13-2 Premer Leagus (4th), 8-1 Evezos Rufo, Fourdaned, 16-1 Demardia, 25-1 The French

Fuza, 33-1 Green Jacket (5th), Kpolo. Soviet Lady. 12 ran. 2'/s. 5, 8, 5, nk. (Winner cheatnut gelding by Thesching out of Sabaeh, trained by G L Moore at Brighton for Mrs E Kier-nan). Tote: £3.90; £140, £2.40, £2.60, OF: £18.10, CSF: £35.04 Thoast £218.73.

Also: 13-8 fev Katie's Cracker. 7-1 Tazkhya (6th), 10-1 Sharusketth, 12-1 Adilov. 14-1 Super-Gem (4th), 20-1 Nothing Doing, 25-1 Captain Marmalade, Doddy's Polly. 50-1

China Mail, 66-1 Hoppit, The Silk Thie Arran Real, corn ruppet, me sak men. 14 ran. 2, 3, 2, 3, 14 (Winner bay filly by Komaite out of Heresheis, trained by J Pearce at Newmarket for M Whatley) Tota: £10.40; £3.50, £1.51, £6.60, DF: £17.40, CSF: 3.00: (5f. handicap)

7 ran, 1½, 1¼, 1¼, hd. 2 (Winner brown geiding by Seatablest out of Visage, trained by P Feigate at Lisburn for T Deen). Tote: 58.70; £3.00, £2.20, DF: £16.90, CSF: £23.53

Also: 11-8 lav Maschel (5th). 8-1 Bruf Stream (5th), 9-1 Baafi (4th). 6 ram, 6, 11th, 3, 2, 2 (Winner bay coll by Generous out of Noble Conquest, trained by 6 Hills at Lambourn for A D Shead). Yeter \$330; \$230 \$270, DF. \$620 CSF. \$1411.

lands Merc (5th). 20-1 Mummy Nose Best 6 mm. Hd. 9. 8. 8. 3. (Winner bey filly by Ballo Cove out of Adjanada, trained by G Butler at Dickoot for E Penser). Total: \$5.00; \$2.10, £120, DF: £2.50, CSF: £788 4.30: (Im. 3yo handicap)
1. ROYAL PREVIEW \_\_\_\_\_C Carver 2-1
2. Dream On Me\_\_\_\_\_\_ Faming 3-1
3. Matchik \_\_\_\_\_ J Quinn 11-2

Also: 8-4 fav Done And Dustod (4th). 4 ram. 3'1: 3, 2'1 (Winner bay 58) by Frince Sabo out of Visible Form, trained by M Bell at Newmarket for Sir Peler Davis). Toto: C380. DF: 26.00. CSF: 2774 Jackpot: £19,292.70 (part won; pool of £21,738,34 carried torward to Southwell

loday). Placepot: £13230 Quadpot: £1330 Place 5: £19198. Place 5: £7609

Yesterday's meeting at Huntingdon was abandoned because of frost following a 7.30am inspection. Wincanton's meeting scheduled for yesterday was called off the previous day.

**\*THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES** <u>089</u>1 261 + 971 981 972 i 973 % ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

#### SOUTHWELL

HYPERION 1.10 Sharp Monkey 1.40 EURO VENTURE (nap) 2.10 Golden Lyric 2.40 Alsahib 1.10 Bold Aristocrat 3.40 Heathyards Jake

GOING: Standard STALLS: inside DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to low best for 51, low best for 7t

10 Loughaniea 4.45 Billy Box

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Nuclei to low best for 51. low best for 7t 
■ Fibresand surface, left-hand sharp, oval course. 
■ Gouse is 3m SE of town and 5m W of Newark, Rollaston Junctin adjoins course ADMISSION: Cub Dt2, Tathersalls 26. (OAP members of courses Damond Club St, accompanied under-16s free! CAR PARK: Free.
■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 42-214 (195%). J Eyre 41-29. (O3%). S Bosning 40-288 (103%). R Hollinshead 37-390 (95%). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: J Quinn 42-483 (87%). J Weaver 37-217 (97%). C Charnock 34-376 (9%). G Duffield 31-224 (138%). ■ FAVOURITES. 451-415 (34%).
■ FAVOURITES. 451-415 (34%).

se PAYOURITES: 451-1415 (34%)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Daring News & Loughantee (410): General Assembly (445). The Cottomwool Kid (vicored 210): I Cried For You neared 210: Clouds Of Glory & Qualitair Silver (visored 410): Digital Option (visored 445).

1.10 GREAT BEAR HANDICAP (CLASS F) 022 42 KASS ALHAWA (4) (C) (D) (BP) D Chapman 68 10

The Improvement of Co. BETTING: 7-2 Kapa Albana, 9-2 Gam Line, 5-1 Sharp Monkey, Yora, 8-1 Arc. 9-1 Europink Moussaka. 10-1 Sportling Harry, Yajiahed. 12-1 others FORM VERDICT Kass Althowa had load drawfs and is overdue a change of for time, but he could find one too good in the shape of YALTAHED. If overs pomiscent that Gary Moore is persovering with the well-handcopped tour-your-old after three moderate declares on the har-dampped four-you old after three moderate displays on the AW and their particularly interesting now that he is equipped with blovers for the first time on a surface which should surfirm bet-

1.40 NORTH STAR HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV I) £4,000 added 6f | Colv. | Colv

FORM VERDICT EURO VENTURE looks the one to best on his form against from Tun here last week. Young Bigwig is potentially interesting on the surface, if he ever translates his best buf form to it.

2.10 GREAT BEAR HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,500 added 1m

Linguam weight 7st 100 Tipe handled weights Avertian Star 7st 6to. The Cationson Ker 1st 5to. Polar Herbarn 7st 2to. Startman Ker 1st 5to. Polar Herbarn 7st 2to. Section 6to 1st 5to. Polar Herbarn 7st 2to. Section 6to 1st 5to. Polar Herbarn 7st 2to. Section 6to 1st 5to. Polar Herbarn 7st 2to. Section 6to. 1st 6to. Section 6to. S

Anonym and Genuine John are two for the short-list but pref-erance is to GOLDEN LYRIC, whose recent afterts read well enough at this level. Another good run is very much on the cords.

2.40 SEA GOAT CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) \$2,000 added 1m 4f  - 6 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Abulijood, 9-4 Alashib, 4-1 Moonsalding, 11-2 Pickens, 10-1 Time Out, 50-1 Out For A Cruise FORM VERDICT

ABULLIJOOD is the pick of the weights on recent form and looks the likelies; wither, even allowing for a below-par run last time, when having an excuse 3.10 NORTH STAR HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV II) £4,000 added 6f

9 250-03 SCUPPRLOUS (8) J.L. Hams 4 8 4 . . . . Deen McKeows 8

- 9 declared -BETTING: 7-2 Ellon Ledger, 9-2 Bold Aristocrat, 5-1 Legisle, 11-2 Re-doctostile, 13-2 Cool Prespect, 8-1 1 Cried For You, 9-1 others FORM VERDICT if Cool Prospect takes to the surface, he has to be one, but the percentage gail is either ELTON LEDGER or Bold Aristocrat.

3.40 FLYING DRAGON MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,000 added 7f 

BETTING: 7-4 French Spice, 9-2 Behander Pirate, 5-1 Heathyards Jake, 7-1 Adilana, 15-2 Kentucky Bullet, 12-1 Marton Ment, 14-1 Others FORM VERDICT

BAHAMIAN PIRATE showed distinct promise on his AW debut recently, enough to suggest he can win a medicore race such as this, even with reservations about the catte furting. That first run since September ought to have brought him on. Heathyards Jake

4.10 PEACOCK SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 7f  - 11 declared - SETTING: 11-4 Loughtmien, 4-1 Stravess, 11-2 Scathebury, 6-1 Fm Tel, 7-1 Bicton Paris, 8-1 Rennyholms, 13-1 Abbasi, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT SCATHEBURY is more consistent than most and he lest two rurs here have been good. Loughardes would have a bright chance it running to the level of his form here two outings ago, but he has aince been below his best at Lingfield and now weens headger

4.45 MILKY WAY HANDICAP (CLASS F) 0660-0 GENERAL ASSEMBLY (JS2) G Margarson 7 10 0 2 /005-1 QUEZON CITY (11) (CD) Miss J A Carracho 5 8 19 (Sed) 

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handicip weights: Princesse Zelde, Marie-cle 7st 9th. Semie's Ser 7st 3th, Transparent 7st 3th. Shudlecock 7st 0th. BETTING: 100-30 Biny Box, 9-2 Queson City, 5-1 Old Hosh Wing, 5-1 Spe Lam, 9-1 Meltum, 10-1 Hudlerk, 11-1 Pertemps Milasion, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

QUEZON CITY rise sound claims following his easy 6 lengths de-feat of Mudlark here last time. He comes here in good heart and has from for improvement at the tips Bity Box carnot be ruled out if he goes the right well for his last run, but Spe Lame and Old Hush Wing make more appeal after solid efforts here less time. ■ Balla Sola was a smooth winner on his jumping debut yesterday at Thuries. The Willie Mullins-trained four-year-old will now run in the Triumph Hurdle for which William Hill later cut his odds from 25-1 in to 16-1. Ferbet Junior won over fences on the

same Thurles card, but Jessica Harrington's

French-bred will revert to the smaller obstacles at Cheltenham for either the County Handicap Hur-

المكذا من الاصل

# Soldini primed for his second rescue

by for his second rescue mission of the Around Alone race after the mast on the Frenchman Marc Thiercelin's boat broke in the stormy South Atlantic yesterday, jeopardising his third-leg lead.

Thiercelin enjoyed an 18hour lead over Soldini until he hit rough seas west of the Falk- Punta del Este. land Islands early Thursday. He was still hoping to reach the islands, but Soldini, who last week rescued Isabelle Autissier when her yacht capsized, is ready to pick him up if need be. Thiercelin's mast jumped from its deck fitting and punched through the deck.

BY BILL CORMIER

"The mast, when it broke, made a big hole in the deck. Water was coming in and he is trying to get that stopped,"

said the race director, Mark Schrader, by telephone from The Uruguayan port is the finish of the third and penultimate leg of the 27,000 nautical miles race, which started last September in Charleston, South Carolina, and is to end

Thiercelin's yacht, Somewhere, was reported about 180

rough seas after negotiating one of the more treacherous passages, around Cape Horn at the tip of South America.

"He's about 400 miles north of Cape Horn. You would expect reasonable weather but there was a cold front that brought northerly winds," Schrader said. Thiercelin alerted his shore

crew in France by satellite phone early yesterday after the dismasting. The race's Internet website reported later in the day that the loosened mast was threatening to punch through the hull of Thiercelin's yacht and incoming water drenched the navigation room,

gomerie has played just once

after a two-month break, and

Westwood twice, with con-

trasting results of missing a cut

and then finishing second in Dubai. Neither looked sharp

enough to take their rivals the

full distance and this is one

event where there is no room

for slowly playing yourself in.

and I don't know what to put it

down to." Westwood said after

his 3 and 2 defeat to Eduardo

Romero. "I am going home for

two weeks off." Montgomerie

attempted to keep a low profile

in the run-up to the event, but

still suffered a recurrence of the heckling which dogged in the

States last year. As he was

about to play his second shot,

from the rough at the 15th - he

was four down to Craig Stadler

at the time - a spectator chid-

ed the Scot by saying: "You've

proved correct but that does not

save it from being ill-mannered.

whoever it was," said Stadler.

"I think I gave him a longer

According to Woods, it was

downswing that caused Faldo

to sky his tee shot at the short

14th into the trees. The ball

came down barely 100 yards

from the tee, short of the water

in front of the green and Faldo

stared after it in bewilderment.

the swing brought to mind

Mark McNulty's assertion that

Faldo was hitting shots like a 24-

handicapper and should have

been shown on British screens,

The slow-motion analysis of

The assessment may have

got one more shot left."

stare than Monty did."

"My whole game was off

puter and most of the electronic equipment. Thiercelin was left with a satellite phone to communicate after the accident.

"A lot of the rigging went over the side so he's been busy cutting that away. And because of the hole, there are very rough waves crashing on the deck and water's going in. He's dealing with it. He's got pumps and right now he's just trying to get the hole plugged," Schrader

He said Soldini, who changed course and sailed for more than 24 hours to reach Autissier when her yacht capsized in the Southern Ocean

around Antarctica, was asked cisions. He risks being dis-to stand by to divert again. qualified if he is towed more "Received the news of the dismasting. Tell us if you need anything," Soldini said in a terse message. His yacht, Fila, was reported to be about 180 miles from Thiercelin some two

hours after the dismasting. Thiercelin, as leader of the current leg from Auckland, New Zealand, had originally been expected in Punta del Este on about 1 March. "On this leg he is 85 miles ahead. He is some 18 hours ahead of Giovanni overall," Schrader said. "If nothing happens to Soldini, I'm sure he will take the lead." Thiercelin faces difficult de-

than 10 miles, but he could improvise with what's left of the mast to limp to the Falkland Islands for repairs in an attempt to reach Uruguay eventually.

The Argentmian navy and Falkland authorities have been advised of the situation, said Schrader, adding "no outside rescue resources are auticipated as being needed." He said that even

Thiercelin were to make it under his own power to the Falklands, he may need a replacement for his sophisticated mast built of special carbon materials. "He will not find one

lands," Schrader said.

Soldini rescued Autissian unharmed after her yacht capsized in 30-foot swells in the Southern Ocean on 16 February, about 1,800 miles west of the southernmost tip of South America.

Thiercelin was criticised by many following the race last week for not going to rescue Autissier, who was trapped in her overturned boat for 24 hours. Soldini went instead, even though Thiercelin was actually closer (he was 120 miles away while Soldini had to cover 200 miles), but he claimed he had problems with his boom



Soldini: Asked to stand by

that would not allow him to move quickly upwind. That earned him the condemnation of sailors worldwide, who noted that he managed to build up a 400-mile lead during the rescue.

Fijian

makes

Golf: Westwood, Montgomerie and Faldo beaten as world rankings are again turned on their head

# Europeans struggle as seeds fall

there in May.

IT IS indisputably the case that golf is not tennis, which is just one reason why the Andersen Consulting World Matchplay Championship is not being played in a tent in Battersea Park but at a resort named La Costa in southern California. It is a good place to catch some winter sun and, the week after half-term, the flights need not be exorbitant. Unless, of course, circumstances prevent topping up the tan for as long as expected and arrangements need to be changed.

Given they can afford changeable first-class tickets. and that it was not necessary to complete 18 holes to collect £15,625, this was almost, but not quite, the situation the five British players found themselves in on Wednesday evening. They may have arrived with degrees of expectation varying between the hopeful and the hopeless, but Colin Montgomerie, Lee Westwood, Darren Clarke, Ian Woosnam their failure to secure a tee time for vesterday morning's second round.

Reading the local newspaper's sports section was not an alternative for the quintet: Now boarding at Gate 19, the Aloha Special. Passengers with British passports, Florida driver's licenses and high seeding numbers please form a line. On the menu tonight will be hard cheese and hemlock. This will be a non-smoking flight. And no BY ANDY FARRELL in Carlsbad, California

snivelling, either. You guys didn't lose, you got beat."
All that can be said is that

they were in good company. As the fifth and sixth seeds, Westwood and Montgomerie had were predicted to have a long run in the event, but then so were Mark O'Meara (the third seed), Davis Love (4th) and Ernie Els (7th). Only Tiger Woods and David Duval survived from the top-seven seeds and out of the 32 matches, 17 were won by the lower-ranked player. Which is where all the references to golf not being tennis come in.

"This isn't tennis where a sixth seed gets beaten by the 60th and it's a big shock," said Paul Azinger, who beat Els by one hole. "The players'll know the rankings are pretty silly." O'Meara, the World Match Play champion at Wentworth, was on his way to a family skiing holiday Bradley. "You can call it an upset, but Michael is a fine play-

er and i didn't play well today."

While Els may have found it difficult to refocus so soon after a mobile phone ringing on his his victory effort in Los Angeles on Sunday, some of the European players may have suffered from lack of competitive action so far this season. All the US Tour players have been active on the West Coast swing, with Duval winning twice and Woods once. Mont-

only after the evening watershed because of the time dif-Only four of the 11 Europeans in the field made it to the second round with Thomas Biorn, Patrik Sioland and Jose Maria Olazabal all recording fine wins on Wednesday. The extra room off the tee at La Costa helped Olazabai overcome his inconsistent driving and the Spaniard responded to being two down after six holes against Billy Mayfair by winning seven of the next nine. "It is no fun when you are hitting the ball sideways as I did," said Ollie, "but you have to stick at it and Craig Stadler (left) is congratulated by his caddie AP



Nick Faldo examines his wedge after his bunker shot at the 15th hole during his defeat by Tiger Woods

US unless stated flighter-ranked player first)

N Price (2m) bt F Minoza (Phil) 4 & 3

Leonard bt M A Jimenez (Sp) 4 & 3

S Soricker lost to S Marayama (Japan)

S & 2

P Mickelson VN Ozaki (Japan) 3 & 2

J Maggert bt F Funk 2 holes

J Funyk lost to P Syoland (Swe) 5 & 3

L Janzen bt G Day 3 & 2

V Singh (Fili) bt R Mediarte

S & 3

M Calcavet Chia lost to C France (Parl) M Calcave(chia lost to C Franco (Par)

COMPLETE FIRST-ROUND SCORES FROM CARLSBAD

B Langer (Ger) bt B Fasion
4 & 2
L Westwood (GB) lost to E Romero
(Arg) 3 & 2
C Montgomerie (GB) lost to C Scadler
5 & 3
E Els (SA) lost to P Azinger
1 hole
H Sutton lost to L Roberts
5 & 4
G Norman (Aug) bt J Cook
3 & 2
J Huston bt B Estes 3 & 2

SLOUGH ARRIVED in Glasgow

last night for the European In-

their depleted squad reduced to

just eight, their latest casualty

being the Welsh international

Lauren Williams, a daughter of

JPR, who broke her thumb in

Lesley Hobley and Becky

Frater had previously been

eliminated and Fiona Green-

ham is an influenza victim hop-

J Parmevik (Swe) lost to C Parry (Aus) 1 hole Stewart lost to 5 Cink 3 & 2 i Hoch bt I Woosnam (GB)

Shewart tosc is 5 5 Hoch bt ! Woosr 3 & 2

D Clarke (GB) lost to A Magee 1 hole T Woods bt N Faldo (GB) F Couples bt D Hart 2 holes S Ellidington (Aus) lost to S Jones 2 & 1 T Watson lost to B Tway 6 & 4 T Lehman lost to S Verplank 3 & 1

D Duval bt S Leaney (Aus) 2 & 1 5 Appleby (Aus) lost to B Glasson 2 & 1 Siuman lost to B Jobe 3 & 2 J Sluman lost to B Jobe 3 & 2 M O'Meara lost to M Bradley

M Otazabai (Sp) bt B Mayfair 5 & 3 B Watts lost to T Blom (Den) D Love lost to S Page 1 hole

50 international appearances

Women's Premier. Ipswich en-

tertain bottom-placed Doncast-

er and should take themselves

#### belated debut By Dave Hadfield IAMES PICKERING will make his delayed debut for Castleford in the first of this weekend's Silk Cup Challenge Cup ties tonight, The Fijian prop missed

Castleford's pre-season friendly against Gateshead with a virus and their win over Hull in the last round of the Cup with a leg injury. He will play in the front row against York tonight, with another of this year's new imports, Dale Fritz, also returning. Castleford will be without another new antipodean, however, as Aaron Raper has a leg injury.

Dean Hanger is fit to take his place in Warrington's squad to face Halifax on Sunday, but Chris Rudd is ruled out.

British fans will have a chance to watch the match that could attract a world record rugby league crowd on 6 March, with full coverage of the first game in the double-header at the new Sydney Olympic Stadium being shown in full on Sky. The match between Manly and Newcastle, followed by Parramatta versus St George, could attract a crowd of 110,000, which would make history by topping the 102,569 who watched the 1954 Cup final replay at Odsal between Halifax and Warrington.

The slightly delayed tele is the first of a weekly sequence of Australian games that will be shown on Saturday mornings. Sky is also to show the State of Origin series and the Australia-

New Zealand Test live. The Super League is today launching its cinema advertisement - the first by a sporting organisation in Britain - at the Virgin complex in Wigan, with the local club's Gary Connolly and Simon Haughton, cast as matinée idols

The Rugby League is to visit West Cumbria today to investigate the possibility of converting the Copeland Athletics Stadium into a centre of excellence for the game.

Deakin's challenge page 26

### Hill calls for more power

MOTOR RACING DAMON HILL has called for more power from his engine suppliers, Honda, so that his

Jordan team can mount a serious world championship challenge this season. Hill, who gave Jordan their first victory in last year's Bel-

gian Grand Prix, said that the team can only gain podium finishes if the engine is improved.

"The engine is good, but I doubt it is the best engine in Formula One right now," Hill said. T think it can be. It is just a small step away. But it is Honda's decision whether it wants to put all its eggs into one basket and give us the push we need."

Britain's former world champion added that the new Jordan, which he tested in Barcelona recently, could give him an excellent chance of making a successful start. "It was immediately obvious that this chassis package was a great deal better than last year," he said. "The car is quite quick, but we all want more because we know that there's a huge difference between being numero uno and one of the rest." The championship starts with the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne on 7 March.

# O'Sullivan's untimely break |Slough's injury crisis

**WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE.** 

Draw date: 24/02/99. The winning numbers: 2, 3, 13, 27, 34, 48. Bonus number: 41. Total Sales: £28.187.848. Prize Fund: £12.684.531 (45% of ticket sales).

Maybe, just maybe. THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

In the event of any discrepancy in the above, the data contained in Camelor central computer system shall preve

RONNIE O'SULLIVAN has broken the little finger on his right hand on the eve of his first ap-

pearance in this year's Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge. The world No 3, due to meet Alan McManus or Dennis Taylor tomorrow, tripped and feil, sustaining the injury. However, O'Sullivan, who has already missed two events this year be-

cause of health problems, in-

CATEGORY

Match 6 (Jackpot)

Match 5 plus bonus ball

Match 4

TOTALS

sists he will be able to compete in the best-of-nine frame quarter-final at Derby's Assembly

and it will heal itself with time," a hurry and I fell on the finger. I was worried I wouldn't be able to play but I took a few pain- Davis became the first winner ren Clarke.

NO. OF WINNERS

602

30,277

536,388

killers and I'm OK now. It was in the 1999 event, beating Peter just a stupid thing that hap- Ebdon 5-3. Davis now meets pened. It certainly stops me John Higgins, the world champlaying left-handed, which I've

try your guts out."

been doing lately." O'Sullivan is a former winner "It's not as bad as I'd feared of the Charity Challenge title and finished runner-up in 1996

£1.268.912

147 break in the deciding frame.

in the semi-finals of the event. "It's nice to bounce back after playing so badly in Scotland last week," said the 41when Stephen Hendry made a year-old six-times former world champion, who lost in the first On the table yesterday, Steve round in Aberdeen against Dar-

TOTAL EACH TIER

£3.806,736

£5.363.880

£12,678,625

pion and world No 1, for a place

ing to travel today but with limited prospects of playing. Slough, having twice previously finished with European silver medals, were originally very optimistic of taking the

Under their coach, Andy Halliday, and their manager, Martin Langston, their preparations, which started way back in October with a training weekend in Germany, had been thorough and, although missing experienced coach, Niall Stur-

### door Club Championship with BY BILL COLWILL

Karen Brown, who had decided to concentrate on the outdoor game, their hopes were high of becoming the first team

a fall on Wednesday in her flat. to take the title away from Ger-Russelsheimer, going for their sixth successive title, will now start favourites, in spite of

the fact that their great star, Britta Becker, gave birth to a daughter last month and may only play for short periods. Slough's initial threat will.

however, come from the host club, Glasgow Western, whom they meet this afternoon in their opening pool game. Their other pool opponents are Real Sociedad, of Spain, and Lokomotiva Race, of Slovakia.

Western, under their very

each, including Margery Coutts with an impressive 127 Scottish South of the border, there is a top v bottom meeting in the

> six points clear of the defending champions, Slough who will have a game in hand. Olton Terraquest welcomed England international Lucilla

Wright back last weekend after surgery and will be looking to close the gap on their visitors Hightown who are holding the last end of season play-off

There are top play second games in both the First Division and Second Division but, with two teams from each division gaining promotion, the competition could be less fierce.

46 g in 18

A PLETTING

town No town Control of the Contro



helated

# Sugar puts progress before pay-out

a £237,000 payment from Tottenham Hotspur this year after shareholders. It also plans to deciding that the north London club would be better off channelling its cash into developing its stadium and training

The Spurs chairman, who has a 40.5 per cent shareholding, yesterday announced that the club would not be paying its usual half-year dividend to of income," Sugar said.

rass on its final dividend at the end of its financial year in July.

"Given the level of profits and the requirement for further capital spend on the stadium site and training ground any dividend the Company might propose would more of a gesture than a sensible distribution

saving exercise which is also likely to see a number of wellknown names leave White Hart Lane as the Tottenham team manager, George Graham, reduces the size of his playing squad from 44 to 36. Already on the transfer list are Paolo

and Moussa Saib, the Algerian

international who has only

The move is part of a money-matches, and others are likely to be sold.

The decision to cut the dividend will save Tottenham £586,000 this year. Last year, the club, paid its shareholders a dividend of 0.58p per share, while in the 1996-97 season shareholders received 1p per share Tramezzani, Jose Dominguez

Tottenham's finances have chub attempts to rebuild its po-

League while also developing figure helped by an increase in 30 November were halved to more young players. Progress is being made on the pitch, and on Wednesday Spurs, who are already through to the Worthington Cup final, reached the quarter-finals of the FA Cup with a 2-0 victory over Leeds United

in a fifth-round replay. Yesterday, Tottenham recome under pressure as the ported a 20 per cent increase in a second season outside the

average attendances after the £275,000. The fall reflected inclub finished redeveloping its North Stand However, increased costs - including a 28 per cent rise in player salaries mean that pre-tax profits were broadly flat at £4.1m.

By contrast, Sunderland showed the strain of spending revenues to \$23.6m for the six Premier League as their pre-

sition as a force in the Premier months to the end of January, a tax profits for the six months to creased administration expenses and a rise in net

Losses before transfer payments at the Second Division club Preston North End deepened to £84,000 for the six months to last December, compared to a deficit of £63,000 in

# to face latest

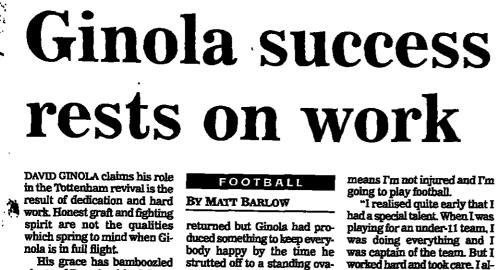
By Andreas Evagora

AMELIE MAURESMO will face Martina Hingis in a repeat of last month's bristly Australian Open final after cruising to a 6-2, 6-1 win over Karina Habsudova at the Gaz de France Open yesterday. She will take on the world No 1 in a quarter-final there today. The match resumes the rivalry that began before the Melbourne final when Hingis described Mauresmo, who is a lesbian, as "half a man." Mauresmo responded by saying Hingis had. been stupid, though the Swiss teenager has since said the media overplayed her comments. Hingis won the Australian final 6-2, 6-3.

Mauresmo was never in any trouble against Habsudova, dominating the Slovak's service and asserting her own game. She won in just 52 minutes, Earlier, the Belgian Dominique van Roost seeded third, maintained her fine start to the year by beating Spain's Virginia Ruano-Pascual 6-4, 6-0. France's Julie Halard-Decugis, Nathalie Dechy and Russia's Elena Likhovtseva, also qualified for the quarter-finals. This year, Van Roost has reached the last eight of the Australian Open, and the final of the Auckland WTA event,

Meanwhile, Anna Kournikova of Russia needed just 51 minutes to beat Kristina Brandi 6-3, 6-1 in the second round of the IGA Superthrift Tennis Classic. Kournikova, ranked 13th in the world, was making her tournament debut. She advances to the quarter-finals to face fifthseeded Chanda Rubin, the only other seeded player in action. Rubin defeated Australian Nicole Pratt 6-3, 6-2.

Two unseeded Americans also reached the quarter-finals. Alexandra Stevenson beat Russian Tatiana Panova 2-6, 7-6, 7-5 and Jane Chi beat Mashona Washington 7-6, 6-3.



plenty of Premiership defenders this season but, after helping Spurs into the FA Cup quarter-finals, Ginola insisted his ability was harnessed with a simple work ethic.

Ginola said: "I always work hard. People don't realise it and that upsets me. Sometimes I produce something of quality but I have to work at that quality too. I always want to give more and more but if you are pleased and the manager is pleased and the chairman is pleased then you earn your contract."

The French winger plays with the poise and finesse of his boyhood heroes Johan Cruyff and Michel Platini - but his words will be music to the ears of his Tottenham task-master, George Graham.

The Tottenham bench barked orders at the wandering Ginola as he strayed from his left-wing berth during the first half of Wednesday's 2-0 FA Cup fifth-round replay win over Leeds United at White Hart It's always a good day when I work in life you don't get any-Lane. A smouldering look was step onto a football pitch. It thing out."

tion in the final minute.

Ginola's wizardry was crucial as Tottenham overcame Leeds. He rattled the woodwork twice before finding the net, and left Darren Anderton wondering just what the English must do to upstage the French.

Anderton put a 35-yard shot into the top corner to break the deadlock, but the 32,000 spectators all left White Hart Lane talking about Ginola.

The adoring masses are part of a job the 32-year-old Frenchman says he loves - and he milked the applause after the man-of-the-match perfor-

that are just special. That's why I love the job. Football is so exciting to play and to be involved in. There's such passion, you always want to give more

don't think it all comes very new manager and fight and easy. I work hard at my career. work every game. If you don't

means I'm not injured and I'm

playing for an under-11 team, I was doing everything and was captain of the team. But I worked hard and took care. I always cleaned my shoes after each game and I would cry when I couldn't play on a Saturday because it was raining."

Ginola's skills have flourished again since Graham succeeded Christian Gross as manager at Tottenham and brought the success-starved half of north London something to cheer.

Ginola said confidence was sky-high at Spurs and now the former Newcastle winger cannot wait to step onto the Wembley stage with Spurs at least once - and maybe twice - to crown a glorious season.

Ginola added: "It is a big Ginola said: "Moments like thing for the club. In the last five years they have got nothing and it's great now to be back in contention and we deserve what is happening because we have worked hard.

"I would be thrilled to get to "At Newcastle and at Paris it Wembley twice but it's more imwas always the same - but portant for me to get on with the



John Toshack gives the thumbs-up at Barajas airport in Madrid last night. The Welshman is about to commence his second spell as Real Madrid coach, starting with tomorrow's Spanish League match against Real Betis AP

### Gresley dispense with Birtles

GARRY BIRTLES' first taste of management came to an abrupt end late on Tuesday evening, when the former Nottingham Forest, Manchester United and England striker was sacked by Gresley Rovers.

Birtles and his assistant, Paul Fitzpatrick, were dismissed after a 3-1 defeat at Grantham made it 14 games without a win in the Dr Martens League Premier Division for Gresley. The Derbyshire club are one point clear of the relegation zone but have played more matches than three of the four teams below them.

As the No 2 to Paul Futcher, round of the FA Umbro Trophy

NOTEBOOK

BY RUPERT METCALF

Birtles helped steer Rovers to the Dr Martens title in 1997, when the inadequacies of the Moat Ground denied them promotion. He took charge when Futcher moved on to Southport, but has been hindered this season by serious financial difficulties. Gresley's veteran goalkeeper, Stuart Ford, takes caretaker charge of the team.

Boston United, who entertain Altrincham in the fifth

the services of Chris Waddle. Nationwide Conference title. The Pilgrims had offered the former Tottenham and England winger, who had a spell with Torquay earlier this season, a short-team deal, but he turned them down this week.

"I did think about it," Waddle admitted, "but I decided I wanted to concentrate on my coaching job with Sheffield Wednesday, which I didn't want to risk by picking up an injury." The Ryman League side

Hendon have the toughest task in the Trophy - they travel to the holders, Cheltenham Town, who are the bookies' favourites

tomorrow, have failed to recruit for both the fournament and the OXFORD UNITED may yet play The north London team are

in the last 16 for the first time First Division strugglers' match in 21 years. Their manager, Frank Murphy, is travelling west hopefully. The last time Cheltenham lost in the Trophy" he said, "I was the winning manager [at Dulwich Hamlet] and the winning goal came from Paul Whitmarsh." He now plays for Hendon and is the Ryman Premier's top scorer.

The England semi-professional side play their first in-Italy at Church Road, Hayes. Oxford to make history

their part in changing the face of English football. Should the against Sunderland tomorrow - the first to be screened nationally on a pay-per-view basis - be a success, it could pave the such games are worth. way for an expansion of football on subscription channels, PPV

and digital television. "Pay-per-view is one of the strands of the ever more complex range of platforms available." Richard Scudamore, the chief executive of the Football ternational of the season next League said yesterday. He Tuesday when they take on added that the main purpose of

at 6pm and will be screened on Sky Box office at £7.95 per subscriber) was not to make money, but to gauge fan opinion and quantify precisely how much

making the most of our TV deals," Scudamore said. "One of my key responsibilities is to generate money for our clubs." he added, but said he was not morrow's take-up rate.

The Oxford v Sunderland

tween now and the end of May. The next will be Second Division Colchester's home game with Manchester City on 20 March, with the others to be decided. All six will be in addition to games already scheduled by Sky.

The matches shown during "We have to look at ways of the experiment, Scudamore said, had been chosen because the away sides have a large away following unable to attend in person. The matches would be sell-outs, he added, and therein a position yet to estimate to- fore there was no possibility of a negative effect on attendance. "We want to know more (about match will be the first in a se- the demands for PPVI," Scud-.tomorrow's game (which starts ries of six "screen tests" be- amore said. Tomorrow he will.

#### **TODAY'S** NUMBER

The number of goals that Jamaica, who reached the World Cup finals for the first time last summer, conceded to Costa Rica in a

friendly. Jamaica

failed to score.

### ATHLETICS

ATRILETICS

EUROPEAN ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION
INDOOR BANTATIONAL (Acheens) Ment
60m:15 Emmanuel (Mogeria) 6.56ec; 2 G
Theodorids (Gr) 6.59; 3 B Lewis (LIS) 6.59.
60m handles: I C Howkins (US) 75; 1.21 Knvac (Stowak) 7 60; 3 I Kazanov (Lat) 7.61
200m: 1 R Casy (US) 20.20; 2 A Marksus/Ris(Gr) 21 40; 3 A Alengooules (Gr) 21.04. 400m:
1 P Toledo (Med) 46.59; 2 C Kerveris (Gr)
46.56; 3 A Cardenas (Mer) 46.69; 1900m:
1 P Toledo (Med) 46.59; 2 C Kerveris (Gr)
46.56; 3 A Cardenas (Mer) 46.69; 1900m:
1 A Diac (Sp) 3 min 33.32ee; 2 W Tanum (Ken)
3:35; 17; 3 D Leiel (Ken) 3.40,60; 3.000m:
1 S Leiel (Men) 3.40,60; 3.000m;
1 S Leiel (Men) 3.40,60; 3.000m;
1 S Leiel (Men) 3.40,60; 3.000m;
1 S Leiel (Men) 3.000m;
1 S Leiel (Men

W. C.

en: 80m: 1 N (granova (Rus) 7.27; 5 wnfetd (BB) 7 48, 200m (Brst series); RK (Rus) 23.21; 2 5 Anderson (GE) 400m: 1 O Konyarono (Rus) 52.00.

SPORTING DIGEST 4 V Day (GB) 54 45. 800m: 1 N Gorelova (Rus) 2.02 67; 6 E Davies (GB) 2:07 78. 1500m: 1 S Konarova (Rus) 4:13.81; 6 S Ingman (GB) 4:27.90. 60m hardles: 1 N Ramalankina (Fr) 8.14; 5 D Allahyreen (GB) 8.51. High Jump; 1 V Shivla (Rus) 1 92m. Did not start: M Dunkely (GB). Triple Jump; 1 A Harsen (GB) 14.38m Shot: 1 A Romanova (Rus) 18.70; 6 P Roles (GB) 15.20, Pole wash: 1 T Gubarova (Rus) 4.20m; 5 P Wisson (GB) 3.70. Wissnest's standings: 1 Russle 73ots; 2 Spain 42; 3 France 34. Owerall standings: 1 Russle 131 Spcs; 2 Spain 86.5; 8 Italy 86; 4 France 84.5; 5 Portugal 60.6; 6 Britain 55.

BAD MINTON

WORLD GRAND PRIX FINALS (Brunel)
Men's singles, first rounds Group A: P G
Christensen (Den) br R Sidek (Mashy) 11-5
15-11-15-11. Group C: H Hendrawan (Indon)
bt J son DB, (Neth) 15-11-5-2. Women's siasias, first rounds Group A: Zhou Mi (Ch)
bt K Ericson (Swe) 11-2 11-1. Group b: K
Morgan (GB) bt Y Moul (Japan) 4-11-17-115. Men's downbles, first rounds Group B:
C Hunt and S Archer (GB) bt D Kantono and
B Allambo (Indon) 3-15-17-15-15-17- I Gunewan and H Halim (Indon) bt J Eriksen and
I Larsen (Den) 17-14-13-2 Wissens's deables, first rounds Group A: A Lorgerisen and
M Vange (Den) bt H Matsuds and Y Iwetz
(Japan) 15-7-15-10: Ge Fel and Gu Im (Ch)
bt J Goode and D Welbogg (Eng) 15-3-15-3.
Group B: M Thomsen and R Olsen (Den) bt Huang
Nanyon and Van Wel (Ch) 17-15-15
B: H Kirkespard and P Harder (Den) bt N Essa
and O Lomban (Indon) w/o. Mibred doubles:
M Sogsand and R Olsen (Den) bt J Host-Christensen and A Jongensen (Den) 15-9-15-9. Kim
Dong-moon and Pa Nyung-ahn (E Rort) bt O
Non-Balm and N Van Hooren (Den) 15-11-15-12;
S Archer and J Goode (Eng) bt T Heryanto and
M Timur (Indon) 15-8-7-15-15-5. BADMINTON

BASKETBALL BASKE I BALL

NBA: Boston 111 Orlando 79; Indiana 104
foronto 84; Philadelphia 94 Sacramento 81;
Mami 91 Charlotte 83; Decroit 89 Cereland
73; Portiand 94 New Jersey 85; San Antonio
99 Seattle 81; Denver 97 Utah 97;
VEEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULL: European
Championship Seni-final round; Group C
(Crystal Palace); England 67 Belants 56.

CRICKET TOUR MATCH [5: John's, Antigua, final day of three!: Australia 156 (6 5 Biswett 52 R Hinds 4-23) and 209 for 4 dec (6 5 Biswett 53 S, R I Ponting 61 no): West Indies Board XI 55 (A Date 7-24) and 121 (or 4. Watch 53 Jo Color Party SERGES [First day of Four]:
SUPERSPORT SERGES [First day of Four]:
Capa Towns Bender 249 for 7 v Western
Provance. Poer Elizabeth: Eastern Province
347 for 4 v Kus Zulu-Nard. Castarleus: Free
State 212; Northerns 45 for 2. Pearl: Griqualand West 228 for 4 v Boland

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

BOOK (Cheleman), Solian (Priendly w Italy, Hayes PC, The 2 Mar);

Book (Cheleman), Gochard (Dugenhan & Rechridge; Sams (Doncarder), Bands (Cheleman), Sambh (Savenage), Ryan (Southport), Danzey (Wolding), Morrond (Dows), Underwood (Rushden), Bottorworth (Rushden), Mare (Cheleman), Patharson (Magarakan), Howells (Cheleman), Batkles (Cheleman), Srayson (Chelecham), Patharson (Yeon), Matthewalls (Delecham), Patharson (Magarakan), Hawallo (Chelecham), Patharson (Magarakan), Srayson (Chelecham), Patharson (Magarakan), Srayson (Chelecham), Patharson (Magarakan), Srayson (Chelecham), Patharson (Magarakan), Savenagad Rushallond, Magarakan)

m y mw/. 'S LATE RESULTS; PA CUP

Firth-round replayer Blackburn () Newcastie 1; Dertry 3 Hundersfield 1; Tottenham 2
Leeds O. UndBond Langue President's
Cap second-round replays Leigh RM 2 Autrincham 1. Unifflas First Division Cap third
round: Huckinal Down 1 Radcilfre Borough
2 (oer). Dr Warbern Leagues Southern Divisions 55: Leonards O Follestone Invited 3.
North Wastern trains Leagues Continent Divisions 55: Leonards O Follestone Invited 3.
North Wastern trains Leagues Cop theriround replays (Liferce O S) Helens 1, UniJet Sensoux County Leagues First Divisions
Seley O Wick 4. Screenish Direct League Promiler Divisions Buston 2 Westbury 1, Jensson Wastern Ensistem Westbury 1, Jensson Wastern Longue Price Divisions
Downton 0 Cowes Sports 3; Eastfelgh 2
Thatcham 1, Jourson Ensistem League Cap
semi-flash: Felinstower Port & Town 3 Histon
1 (oet). Annex Insurance Morthara League
First Divisions Bisingham Town 2 Easington
2. League Cap foorth round: Eastington 12
League Cap foorth round: Eastfelgton 12
League Cap foorth round: Eastern League
First Divisions Bisingham Town 2 Easington
1. Pondons League Premier Divisions Notingham Forest 1 Manchester Und 1. First Divisions Bolton 0 Grinsby 1: Port Vate 1
Sheffled Wedenschy O, Widdlesburgh 1 Tunmer 3. Second Divisions Scarborough 0
Strewbury 6: Backmoster Und 1. First Divisions Bolton Chester field 0 Westa 6, Darlangun O Rochidale 2: Bury 2 Chester 0. Amon
Jansurance Combination First Division:
Wycombe 2 Useris Park Rangers 1; Cambridge Und 2 Orelson 2: Peterborough 0 Winbedon C; Brighton 0 Chariton 1; Sebrotho 1
West Ham 0, Waldord 2 Fullman 0, Portsmouth
0 Arsend 0 Giffingham Forest 4. Spainsh
Cap quareter-flashs second lang Espainyol 1
Arleidon Maddin 4 (app; 2-6): Departho La
Coruña 1 Mallora 0 (app; 2-7): Valende 4
Barcelona 3 (app; 7-5): Dutach Languet NotBrides 0 (Sandandan O Control 1 (10 Coruña 1)
League 2, 45, G Drummond 51, 66, 82,
Certieno 85) Jamoka 0.

GOLF

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S MASTERS (Gold Coast) Leading Enservand scores (Am enless stand): 68 K Winib (coase record), 65 A J Exthone (Can), 66 J Geddeg (US), 67 J Moodle (GB), K Welss (US), M Exili (US), I Novien, 68 C Yamazala (Japan), 1 Hopkins, A Nicholas (GB), 1 Montey (GB), 1 Kane (Can), A Nicholas (GB), 1 Montey (GB), 1 Kane (Can), A Nicholas (GB), 1 Montey (GB), 1 Kane (Can), A Nicholas (GB), 1 Montey (US), 1 Barrett (US), 68 A Fatushima (Japan), B Herson (US), K Robbins (US), N Bowen (US), GB scienced: 70 D Refic. C Matthew, 71 L Darles, 72 H Dobson, K Marshall, 75 D Bernard, L Fairclough, 5 Strudwick, 76 M McKey.

NBRL: Phoenio 2 Washington 1; Los Angeles 3 Detroit 2 (or); Florids 5 Philadelphia 3; force-to 2 Carolina 2 (or); Chicago 5 St. Louis 1; Nastralile 2 Dallas 1; Calgary 7 Burlina 2 (or); Anahelm 2 Edmonton 1; San Jose 1 Vancou-ciel (early) NORDIC SKIING

LIMERPOOL VICTORIA CHARITY CHAL-LENGE (Derby) First round: 5 Davis (Eng) bt P Eboton (Eng) 5-3; M Fu (FIG) bt M Williams (Wal) 5-3.

FOOTBALL

Beiper v Uncoln Utd.
UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE
Plast Division: Littlehampton v East ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP'S (Ranssan, Amc): weather's cross-country futilities race: 1 Rus-sia: (O Danlous, L. Lazutha, A Rezisten, N Gawilluh) 53min 05 9sec; 2 Italy (S Valbusa, G Paruzzi, A Confortola, 5 Belmondol 34-30-4, 3 Germany V. Bauer, R Roth, E Sarkenbach-er, 5 Wille) 55:13.7: 4 Norway 55:16.7.

SNOOKER

Brist round: A Maurismo (Fr) bt. L'Andre to [Fr] 6-2 7-5. Second round: N Dechy [F bt | Misjol] (Croal 6-2 2-6 6-2) bt An Roos (Bef) bt. V Rusno-Pascual (Sp) 6-4 6-0; b Likhovissen (Rus) bt. Skleimon (Cr. Rep) 6-7-5, J Halard-Decupts [Fr] bt. A Sidot (Fr) 6-1 5-2 a Niessen)

TODAY'S FIXTURES 7.30 unless stated
NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION
Watford v Swindon (7.45) ..... UNIBOND LEAGUE First Divisio

PESON.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Holywell v Rhyl.

HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF

RRELAND Premier Division: Bohemians
v Cork City (7.45): Shebbourne v Fan Harps
(7.45): Waterford v St. Patrick's Achietic
(7.45). THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Fitth-rous replay: Coventry v Sheffield Utd (7.0). RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP FIA round: Castleford v York (7.30). OTHER SPORTS

#### **INVESTMENT RATES - from 26 February 1999**

40 Day Access Bond (Issue I) &   40 Day Access Bond By Post (Issue I)				Keepsale Savings Bond & By Post††				CTOSED 1894-18				
Annual Interest				Annual Interest £15 - £250,000	4.85	485	B&.E	Scarborough 120 & 12	O By Post	(35 davs :	notice)	
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# Clubs' radical answer to World Cup problem

TOM WALKINSHAW would probably have found it easier to complete a death-defying circuit of the old Nurburgring with no brakes on his racing car and both hands tied behind his back, but the most influential big-money investor in English rugby has finally succeeded in brokering a common sense solution to at least one of the problems casting a shadow over the

domestic game. The Allied Dunbar Premiership élite will indeed start playing next season's competitive league fixtures in September. thanks to an imaginative formula designed to minimise the played after the end of the

RUGBY UNION By Chris Hewest

disruptive impact of the fourth World Cup, which begins the following month.

The chairman of English First Division Rugby, the leading clubs' umbrella organisation, yesterday unveiled plans to "weight" the Premiership points system to prevent those clubs heavily populated by Test players being unfairly penalised by international calls. Early season matches will carry two points for a win, but those

World Cup will carry three. In keeping a product before its negotiations. Aware that Anglothat way, Walkinshaw explained, the worst-hit sides would have a sporting opportunity to make up any ground lost during the opening third of the campaign

There had been moves, most notably from Saracens, to delay the Premiership kick-off until 13 November, a week after the World Cup final. It was not, however, an idea that cut much ice with Walkinshaw, who was bought into Gloucester two years ago after decades of sporting and commercial success at all levels of motor racing and understands the fundamental importance of

played during our close season, so much the better for us," he petition with either five or six said. "That is not the situation and we have to live with the reality. We can't shut down our businesses for weeks at a time and have a whole lot of professional players hanging around doing nothing. The same goes for the spectators, who want and

deserve something to watch." feel-good approach to the chances of an English return to European competition next year, although he stressed the extreme sensitivity of the current should come from that short-

public. "If the World Cup was French proposals, thought to be reach agreement now if people based around a 20-team comolution. participants from each country, were scheduled to go before the European Rugby Cup board in Lyons tomorrow, the chairman flatty refused to enter into

detail, explaining that he had no intention of "upsetting the apple cart at such a late juncture". But he added: "Personally speaking, Walkinshaw also adopted a I'd be astonished if reasonable men failed to solve the issue from this position. The English boycott has been painful for all concerned, but long-term rewards

term pain. We will only fail to are not genuine in wanting a res-

Intriguingly, Walkinshaw was nowhere near so upbeat on the chances of a British or Anglo-Welsh league being established in the foreseeable future. "So many people spent such a great deal of time debating that issue last time round that I don't think there is much point anyone resurrecting it unless they have nothing better to do on a wet afternoon," he said dismissively. "The more we looked into the possibility of a British league, the more problematic it

have been an Anglo-Weish agreement based on five Welsh chubs in the two divisions of the Premiership, but when it came to the crunch the Welsh wanted that number doubled. I'm not here to put 10 English clubs out of business, that's for sure."

All of which left him contemplating the extraordinarily complex situation surrounding Cardiff and Swansea, the two Welsh refuseniks who opted out of domestic competition after telling their union exactly what they could do with their 10-year loyalty agreement. If

the hottest political potato in the British game will be planted six feet under in double-quick time - "I don't think there will be a Cardiff and Swansea issue next season," he said cryptically - but if one of those clubs purchases a financially challenged English outfit over the next few weeks, the International Rugby Board may come to a different con-

Whatever happens, the English will not leave the two rebels swinging in the wind. "If it comes down to it, we'll stick to our agreement and play friendly matches against them next season," Walkinshaw said

# Kafelnikov is one step away from summit

UNLESS HE loses to Thomas Johansson, a Swedish opponent who recently recovered from a knee injury, Yevgeny Kafelnikov will become the world No 1 tonight - only the 15th in the 26 years of the ATP rankings, the first from Russia, and the first to be crowned in London (although, as he said, "it wouldn't matter even if it was Ho Chi Minh City").

Black Sea resort of Sochi needs to advance to tomorrow's semifinals of the Guardian Direct Cup to overtake Pete Sampras, the Wimbledon champion. Nor is he prepared to involve Sampras has reigned at the top for a total of 260 weeks, interrupted occasionally by Jim Courier, Andre Agassi, Thomas Muster and Marcelo Rios, Only Ivan Lendi (270 weeks) and Jimmy Connors (268 weeks) have superior records.

**YESTERDAY'S RESULTS** 

Johansson (Swe) bt D Sanguinetti (It) 6-0 6-7 6-2; Y Kafelnikov

(Rus) bt B Black (Zlm) 6-3 6-2: K

Kucera (Svk) bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-2

nikov (Rus) & D Vacek (Cze) bt G

Ivanisevic (Croa) & N Kiefer (Ger)

6-2 6-1; B Black (Zim) & W Fer

reira (SA) bi T Carbonell (Sp) & C

BY JOHN ROBERTS

at Battersea Park

\$12.86m (£7.85m) in prizemoney since turning professional in 1992 and, among other expensive status symbols, he has a collection of top-of-therange sports cars. In contrast to Tim Henman,

The 25-year-old from the the British No 1, Kafelnikov does not have a tennis clothing contract or a portfolio of advertising deals, because he refuses to devote time to photo-shoots. himself in time-consuming tennis politics by joining the ATP Tour's player council.

"If you want to stay competitive you've got to give yourself 100 per cent to the job, not to doing stuff outside the court," said Kafelnikov, who had pre-Kafelnikov, the Australian dicted a repeat of last week's Open champion, has won Rotterdam final against Hen-

TODAY'S ORDER OF PLAY

Centre Court: 12:30pm: R Kra-

jicek (Neth) v K Kucera (Slovak)

Not before 2:30pm: T Enqvist

(Swe) v P Korda (Cz Rep) or G

Hrbaty (Slovak) or J Kroslak (Slo-

vak). Not before 7pm: Y Kafel-

nikov (Rus) v T Johansson (Swe):

N Broad (GB) & R Koenig (SA) v

T Henman & G Rusedski (GB).

usedski (GB): H Arazi (Mor) v D

man and was surprised to see him lose in the first round against the Slovak Jan Kroslak.

'If Tim is enjoying doing those things, then it's OK," Kafelnikov added. "But perhaps Tim could cut his appearance schedule to concentrate and focus on any aspect of his game that is going to improve his performance. I'm sure he's spending enough time on the court, but if he was to spend a little more

may also apply to Henman's committee role with the ATP Tour. "I'm sure it's hurting him," the Russian said. "In anything you're involved besides your main job, it's really hurting. I just think when you compete in a tournament you just have to stay focused on the job."

Was he advising Henman to spend more time on court in tournaments, or on the practice courts? "Both is going to help. He does not play enough clay court tournaments. He obviously plays big ones, like Hamburg and Rome and then the French Open. If you really want to improve your game in general you've got to have a lot of matches on different surfaces. That's how I felt. Even if I was losing three or four times in a row in the first round in the clay court season I still would go back, because that is going to help me play well in the French Open." Kafelnikov moved tantalis-



The Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov heads for a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Byron Black of Zimbabwe at Battersea Park yesterday

ingly close to the summit of the game yesterday with a 6-3, 6-2 win against Byron Black, of Zimbabwe. "I'm probably play-ing as well as I've ever played," Kafelnikov said. "That's a won-derful feeling. You step on the court and feel like you can win

play is becoming irrestistible. "He's at the top of his game, playing with a lot of confidence. I can't see anybody stopping him from becoming No 1, although he will have to play well against Thomas [Johansson."

Kafelnikov was having a lean

not see any drastic change in the Russian's game. "He's just well oiled at the moment. He's seeing the ball well. One thing I noticed was that he's trying to chip the backhand a little bit more. Larry Stefanki [Kafelnikov's

Black agreed Kafelnikov's time a year ago, but Black did backhand a little bit, just to mix donate \$50 for every ace he hits. things up and stay in the point." ■ Goran Ivanisevic has been appointed as the ATP Tour's chairman of players' charities for 1999. "I'm the No 1 guy for paying fines, so they've picked the right guy," Ivanisevic joked. coach] likes players to chip the announcing that he would also

Rome chib, Lazio - but insists

that his future is at Liverpool.

The 19-year-old England strik-

er, who signed a new contract

earlier this season that will

keep him at Anfield until he is

24, said: "Obviously it is flatter-

ing to be linked with a club like

Lazio but I'm still very happy at

Liverpool. We are building a lot

for the future, and I think in the

next few years we will really

start challenging for the title. I

The Football Association of

Wales has decided to appeal

want to be part of that,"

Ferguson said, if the freedom that he is flattered to be linked

The fines go to charity, and Ivanisevic contributed \$58,000 last year "Tve paid more in fines in my career than some of the guys make in prize money all their career."

ship qualifier with Denmark in

the game from Antield to Ninian

Park, Cardiff, where they believe

a partisan crowd will give them

a better chance of victory. But

they have been told by European

football's ruling body that Den-

mark's objections to the change

had been upheld and that the

match had to stay at Antield.

West Ham have welcomed

news that the Asian Football

Confederation is to investigate:

confusion over the transfer of

the South Korean striker Choi

know nothing about a reported

£4m deal for Choi and his South

Korean team-mate, the mid-

The Hammers still insist they

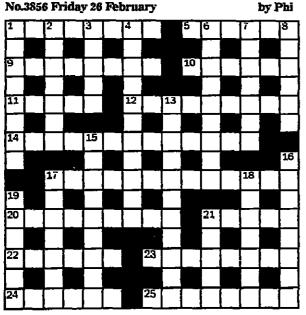
Yong-soo to Upton Park

The Weish wanted to switch

Cardiff on 9 June

Mauresmo in final. page 31

### THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD



Looking for pleasure in an arrangement of

Αl

form of boy-germ, with-Two notes and instrument's determined (8)

Content with statements 24 A prostitute's rolling of guilt prior to end of

11 Dubious about beginning to roll in the grass (5) 12 Poor blood flow - I end reeling, with various

supervision of a game

ches internally (9) 14 It's fine being under the 2 less couple (7) 17 It contains nothing to do 4 with removing dust (6,7) In the course of legisla- 21 tion, nothing is an easy

20 Describing a man not wearing trousers? (3-6) 21 Subscription about a

penny? The fools! (5) Germ of a boy? That's a 22 Heading off for one with dope about game (6) 23 Attacking where flowers are displayed, snatching four (8)

over in beds (6) 25 Dubious glories about a harem (8)

Difficult getting ape to produce printed document? (8) Anguish satisfies love-The girl's a fool! (5)

Thursday's solution

target (7,4) US city that could be lukewarm i.e. no hint of rioting (9) Allow subsequent entry to study a little? Not entirely (7)

Nothing original always limiting the flow of traffic (3-3) 13 "Money given to detectives" - thus Cockney indicates a fortuitous occurrence (11)

Extra amount in fix involving first in race (9) Chaste love enthrals second Shakespearean character (8) 17 Bad temper or anger

Latin dealing with a church ceremony? (7) 19 A good deal of a job getting our supporters to One's following some Scotch play (5)

note four recoiling (7)

Well-versed in a form of

# Ferguson attacks wages spiral

chester United manager, yesterday criticised the wages spiral that he believes is in dan-

ger of crippling the game. Ferguson, whose club were recently ranked as the richest in the world, warned that the increase in players' salaries sparked by the Bosman ruling is hurting fans as well as clubs, and could lead to the loss of a

"What you have now is a free-for-all so far as wages are concerned," Ferguson said. "It is a serious concern now whether clubs can afford to pay the kind of money which is being talked about. If you are to believe some of the sums being bandied about, then the game could die if clubs attempt to meet the demands which are

whole matter." tracts. That led to the recent BY TOMMY STANIFORTH

a reported £14m in wages and

signing-on fees. Ferguson called on players unions to "preach reality" to their members involved in contract negotiations, "Honestly, I believe the very future of football is on the line unless we get back to wage negotiations in which players and clubs are

generation of supporters.

"We all know of cases where clubs are struggling financially and a great many of the problems - if not almost all of them - stem from the fact that players are asking for salaries which are too high and which will cripple the game permanently unless there is some common sense brought to bear on the

The Bosman ruling gave players over the age of 23 the right to leave clubs on a free transfer at the end of their conhigh-profile case of the Liverpool winger Steve McManaman, who has signed a five-year deal with

the Bosman ruling was not used more wisely, he had "real fears" for the game's future from the fan's point of view as well as that of the clubs. "The

money to pay the players has to come from somewhere and, incomfortable and can talk clearly to each other instead of being hung up on the often nonsensical wage deals which are being asked for nowadays," he said.

evitably, that means it will come from the pockets of the supporters," he added. "I don't believe we should be continually asking the fans to pay higher prices to see games. It makes it impossible to take the family, so you are losing out on the next Michael Owen has admitted against Uefa's controversial

of contract given to players by

generation of supporters."

### Campbell to strike over insult

Yilmaz to the Turkish FA. "I

not want to be in breach of con-

sorted out quickly. Feelings are

running high over this dis-

KEVIN CAMPBELL will go on strike at the Turkish club, Trabzonspor, while Fifa look into the "cannibal" row that has shocked football, writes Alan

The former Nottingham Forest forward is not in the right frame of mind to play for the team after the astonishing insult by Mehmet Ali Yilmaz, the club chairman, who described Campbell as a "cannibal" and said he was "discoloured". Campbell's agent, Paul

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford

graceful shur," Stretford said. Stretford confirmed he has faxed Fifa and is talking to them about the procedure. It is new Stretford, has referred the matground as there is no precedent.

Friday In February 1999 Registered as a newsymper with the Post Office

ter to Fifa's players' status Campbell is also due a large committee as well as reporting slice of his contract on Sunday, worth around £400,000. His prewould doubt if Kevin can play vious payment was two months this weekend. How can you late and any default on the when someone holds you in next would give him another such low esteem? Kevin does reason to leave, Fifa have so far refused to tract, but something needs to be

become involved in the row, while Campbell's team-mates held a press conference to declare their backing for the former Arsenal striker after tonishing tirade at the man he paid £4m to sign.

Back issues available from Historie Newspapers, 01983

Yilmaz had launched an as-OPublished by Independent Newspapers (11K) Limited, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDL, and printed at Mirror

by Italian newspapers with the ing their European Champion-

midfielder Jamie Dolan god

fielder Kim Doh-keun, but chib : officials in South Korea yesterday again claimed that the transfers have been agreed. West Ham's football secretary, Neil Harrison, said: "No. transfer has been discussed and none will be taking place. If we signed every player who trained with us we would have

hundreds on the staff." Stoke City have signed the goalkeeper Gavin Ward from Bolton Wanderers of a free transfer. Dundee United are set to sign the left-back Scott McCulloch from Dunfermine Athletic for £300,000, with the to East End Park in pa

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# FRIDAY REVIE

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# There is so much more to say

he devil, as always, was in the detail. When I try to analyse the claustrophobic effect of watching 65 police officers testify at the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, it is not the evidence itself that comes to mind. It is the mances of language, and the

problem.

The first time I heard an officer use the word "coloured" - it was in reference to Duwayne Brooks, Stephen's friend - I pinched myself. Then five or six other officers blithely did the same. Asked about it, they appeared perplexed. They had spent years working in racially mixed areas such as Brixton, they said, and they had never previously

heard any complaints about this term. It was at such moments that the depth of the prob-

lem hit home to me. It was clear that these uniformed agents of the law only ever interacted with black people as . criminals. Their work placed them at the sharp edge of race relations, but their peers, their friends, were without exception white, and it had never occurred to them to find out what language was acceptable to the people who lived in the areas that they policed.

Watching the parade of officers through the witness box was not an uplifting experience. Almost to a man and a woman they were evasive, indifferent, lazy, complacent and defensive. They could not remember the events of five years before, they intoned, one after another. Asked by Michael Mansfield QC, counsel for Stephen's parents Neville and Doreen Lawrence, if in retrospect, they would have done anything differently, they scratched their heads and said, well, no.

Some of them failed signally to rise to the seriousness of the occasion. Former Detective Constable Mick Tomlin, who is now living in retirement on the Costa del Sol, turned up wearing chinos, a sweatshirt and sandals, and was twice reprimanded for flippancy in the witness box by Sir William Macpherson, the inquiry's chairman.

In the meantime, the sorry saga of the failure to catch Stephen's killers was tumbling out in scandalous detail. Every time you thought the Metropolitan Police could not possibly dig themselves into a deeper hole, another officer picked up the spade.



Kathy Marks was there for every key moment of the inquiry into the murder of Stephen Lawrence. She found her growing sense of personal outrage sat uneasily with the sceptical distance she had to sustain over seven months of dispassionate reporting for The Independent

Not content with bungling the murder investigation in spectacular fashion, they added insult to injury. I remember my disbelief on learning that Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Osland, who was in charge of policing in south-east London at the time, had advised fellow officers to sue the Lawrences for accusing them of racism. Osland, by the way, is the man who wrote a memorandum to Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, four months after Stephen's death, informing him that "our patience with the Lawrence family is wearing thin".

The comulative effect on me of all this was a sense of outrage that sits uneasily with the sceptical distance that journalists endeavour to maintain from their subjects. This, though, was no ordinary story, and for those of us who sat through the 55 days of the first stage of the inquiry at the Elephant and Castle, in south London, last spring and summer, it was impossible not to get involved.

The inquiry was absorbing, exhausting, infuriating distressing and all-consuming. It took on its own momentum and built its own small community composed of the lawyers, journalists, inquiry team and staff and, above all, the Lawrences themselves. For despite the far-reaching issues that it raised about policing, race and society, this was an intensely personal inquiry about the death of a young black man, and the presence of his parents was a constant

reminder of that. The image of Stephen surrounded by his assailants is engraved on my memory. Yet every time

to the ground, kicked and stabbed, it is like hearing it for the first time again in all its fresh borror. If the evidence was upsetting for people like me, we cannot begin to fathom its effect on the Lawrences. Mr Lawrence collapsed while the statement of Duwayne Brooks, who was with Stephen when he was attacked, was being read out. The proceedings were halted while Richard Stone, a general practitioner who was one of Sir William's advisers,

ran out to help. Courage seems too small a word to apply to this remarkable couple, Stephen's parents. They remained composed as the most staggering evidence emerged about the ineptitude and bigotry that prevented their son's murder being investigated properly. Mr Lawrence would sometimes get up and walk out of the room, a sign that things were getting on top of him. He came to talk to me once, during a break in the testimony of one officer who, on being asked if he socialised with colleagues after work, had replied haughtily, that no, he went home to his family. "He has got a family to go home to," said a furious Mr Lawrence. "Stephen will never be coming home."

Regulars at the inquiry also included members of the public, who turned up day after day, transfixed. There was David, a large, one-eyed black man, who implored us to remember that Mr Brooks, too. was a victim. There was Harry, with his briefcase, always scribbling furiously. There were members of the Lawrence family's campaign, people from assorted pressure groups and curious south Lon-I hear that account of how he was accosted, pushed doners with time on their hands. Occasionally, they

would get together to write letters to Sir William from "the public gallery", asking him, for instance, to admit more evidence from lawyers for Mr Brooks.

Sir William himself maintained an inscrutable expression, although occasionally his shoulders would sag under the weight of what he was hearing. Now and again, he made his impatience plain. He interrupted Detective Chief Superintendent John Barker, who conducted a discredited internal review of the murder inquiry, to tell him that his evidence lacked credibility and his review was indefensible. The message was clear - "get out of my sight" and Barker swiftly followed his advice. Earlier, on learning that officers who conducted house-to-house enquiries after the murder were ignorant of the fact that suspects had been identified in tips to police, Sir William told one of them, Sergeant Nigel Clement: "It strikes me that in that case your visit to the houses was totally useless."

It is difficult to remember the precise moment when it dawned on me that the inquiry had grown into something bigger than a scrutiny of the aftermath of one racist murder. Perhaps it coincided with a growing realisation that the hearings were becoming a magnet for other victims of racial injustice. Familiar faces were starting to appear in the public gallery; that of Frank Critchlow, for instance, the Notting Hill community worker who sued the police for assault, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution after he was arrested in a drugs raid, and Myrna Simpson, whose daughter, Joy Gardner, died of asphyxiation while she was being restrained by police officers during an im- life ahead of him.

migration raid. Later, they were joined by Kwesi Menson, the brother of Michael Menson, the musician who died after being set on fire in north London, and Sukhdev Reel, mother of Ricky Reel, the Asian student found drowned in the river Thames.

It was when the inquiry team left London last autumn for a regional tour that it became plain that the Lawrence case had touched a raw nerve. As the the Lawrence case non muchous the team held public meetings in Manchester, Bradford, Bristol and Birmingham, members of ethnic minority communities in those cities queued up to tell anvone who would listen that the Lawrence family's experiences resonated with their own.

In each city, the team found a stark dichotomy between the fine-sounding policy initiatives undertaken by senior officers and the reality out on the streets, where the message had not got through to policemen on the beat. I spent two days in Brad-ford speaking to Asian youths in Manningham, a rundown inner-city area that periodically erupts in riots. They talked of officers shouting "Pakis" at them as they drove past in the street; of police waking them up three or four times a night in the small hours, on the pretext of checking that they were abiding by their curfews; of being taken in for questioning and given bacon sandwiches.

There are moments from the last 12 months that will for ever remain in my memory. Watching that infamous police surveillance video, all 90 minutes of it, in the company of a mainly black audience at the public inquiry, and feeling sick to my stomach. Seeing Neville Lawrence engage in a staring match with Theresa Norris, while her son, David, one of the five suspects, was giving evidence in the witness box. (Neville won.) Feeling the explosion of anger and frustration among the crowd outside the building as the five emerged after completing their evidence.

Three days ago, I sat down in a BBC studio and watched a lengthy, uncut interview with Elvin Odoru, who was Stephen Lawrence's best friend at the time he was murdered. To watch this intelligent, articulate, thoughtful young man talk about Stephen was deeply affecting, and it was a reminder that this case, whatever else has flowed from it, was about the death of an 18-year-old boy who had his whole

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#### Lawrence tragedy

Sir: Only if Sir Paul Condon resigns can we believe that the message that racism will be taken seriously has been heard by the Establishment in general and the police in particular.

We have had serious incidents before and change has been promised but nothing has altered. Racist police officers have not been sacked, black men continue to be stopped disproportionately and you are more likely to be prosecuted, convicted and sent to prison if you are black.

Already apologists for the police are trotting out the phrases about not all police officers being racist. We all know this, but there is a racist culture in the police force which has allowed black Englishmen to be treated differently by those sworn to protect them under the law.

It is not a belief that Sir Paul is personally racist that makes it necessary for him to resign. Every policeman must know that failing to treat all citizens equally will result in the most serious consequences and every officer must know that they will be held responsible if they do not prevent racist behaviour in those serving under them. STEPHEN NEWTE Chilworth, Surrey

Sir: The "institutional racism" of the Met is only the presenting problem. The real problem is the Met's spectacular autonomy.

Most Metropolitan Police Commissioners could echo the words of Sir Harold Scott, the first postwar commissioner. In 1954 he said " We in this country can count ourselves lucky that the police have always stood outside the political scrimmage". In other words "we run our own show". I suspect the French Interior Minister exercises more control over the CRS riot police than Jack Straw does over the Met.

It was not always so. Much of the nineteenth century policing was locally controlled by elected committees; the police in Scotland are still run by committees of elected local representatives. If, for the last 40 years, we had had a GLC with a police committee of elected councillors (without magistrates, please) running the Met, there would have been no need for an inquiry into Stephen Lawrence's murder: he would probably never have been murdered. KEN CLARK Bedford

Sir: My experience is that the police, for the most part, are stuck in the culture of 1950s Britain, and they don't get what the Macpherson I joined a protest outside Tottenham police station following the death of a local black man. Roger Sylvester, after eight police officers had visited his house.

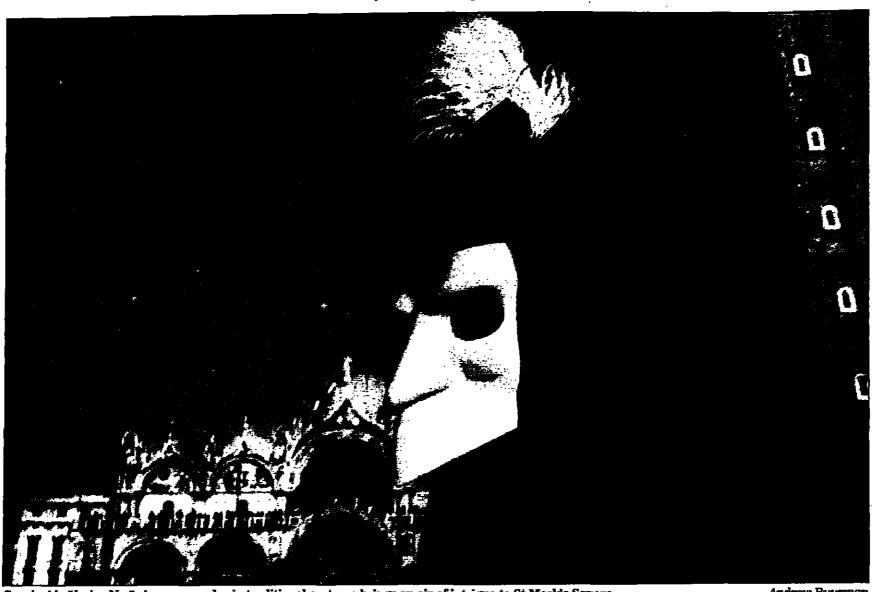
The protest was around 75 per cent black and I was the only white man with a collar and tie present. The senior officer at the station emerged from the building, surveyed the scene, came over and had a chat with me about how unfortunate the whole matter was, and went back inside. No doubt all this was sincerely meant, but it is a symbol, I would suggest, of just how far the Metropolitan Police are from understanding the concerns of the communities they are charged with policing. KEITH FLETT London N17

Sir: The rooting out of racism from our society will remain an improbable Utopia unless our educational system can be drastically overhauled.

It has often been stated that education is the key to changing social attitudes towards greater tolerance and compassion, but there is little evidence that such a polemic is put into practice. Our children ought to be imbued with trans-cultural values and encouraged, from an early age, to appreciate that non-Caucasian races have made significant contributions throughout history to all aspects of human endeavour. ranging from mathematics and

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Carnival in Venice No 5: A masquerader in traditional costume brings an air of intrigue to St Mark's Square

Andrew Buurman

astronomy, through philosophy to the visual and literary arts. A history of mathematics that does not accord the Indians their due place in this subject (the Indians invented the concept of zero, for instance) is racist beyond dispute.

My own experiences as an Asian

academic and parent living and working in Britain for over three decades have convinced me that racism is rife in our educational system. With frequent instances of children being subjected to "paki" insults, and academics covertly mistreating their black and Asian counterparts, it is clear to me that change is long overdue. There can Britain unless our highest seats of learning set an example to the rest. CHANDRA WICKRAMASINGHE Professor of Applied Mathematics and Astronomy University of Wales, Cardiff

Sir: David Aaronovitch's claim (Comment, 23 February) that the Met treats blacks as "inherently" more criminal than whites still offers no solution to the fact that certain deprived areas of high crime also happen to have large black populations, and that suspects must therefore be disproportionately black.

There are additional considerations. A multi-ethnic society manifests ethnic variations in social behaviour; for example, marriage customs, occupational preferences, recreational substance choice. So why not types of crime? Not prejudice but experience leads policemen to suppose that athletic youths are more likely than old ladies to be street criminals. Age, gender and class are implicated in criminality statistics; why not a "race" factor

I do not, of course, mean that a Stephen Lawrence is less lawabiding than a David Norris just because his skin is darker, but it does mean there could be average group differences relevant to suspect-search in large communities. ATL FOSTER-BARNES London E4

Sir: I write to express my dismay at your headline "Streets where race hatred us the norm" (25 February). It neither reflects the tone of the article it introduces por does it do justice to a very ordinary area. The people I meet are upset by Stephen Lawrence's wicked murder, daunted by the sustained media interest and deeply puzzled by suggestions that we are unusually racist in ways we never

suspected. During 12 years' ministry here I have been privileged to see another side - the decency and kindness that people get from their the lack of energy and motivation peighbours in times of crisis. Like the rest of the population we have many faults, but we are not quite the people your headline encourages others to think. The Rev JOHN THEWLIS St Luke's Vicarage Eltham, London SE9

Sir: The first two paragraphs of your report "Streets where race hatred is the norm" (25 February) might suggest that Millwall football supporters killed Stephen Lawrence.

Millwall Football Club, and the majority of its supporters, acknowledge that we have a minority of our support who are racist. Under the chairmanship of Theo Paphitis, we are being more active in the "Kick Racism Out of

Sir: Jack O'Sullivan in his

article about the Isle of Man

Isles (one cathedral, 3,000

people)". St Davids in

PAUL LYNAS

Pembrokeshire has one

("It's not all cats and kippers",

23 February) describes Peel as

cathedral, city status granted

people. If small is beautiful then

smaller is more beautiful and ...

Sir: Alex Duvall Smith's article

on diamonds (Magazine, 13

February) contains a serious

error. Unita has never "set up

by Royal Charter, and 2,000

St Davids, Pembrokeshire

the smallest city in the British

Football" campaign than most clubs. Such cheap jibes do little to aid our cause. MARK YOUNGMAN Neath, West Glamorgan

#### **Depression drugs**

Sir: Deborah Orr ("Stressed out. Blissed out", 24 February) expresses with eloquence the frustration and despair of many who suffer from depression, and who are offered drugs as a first option. Often dismissed as "the worried well", many suffering from that Ms Orr describes are However, many GP surgeries now have an in-house counsellor, and their services tend to be underrated.

When counsellors are appointed in surgeries they soon find themselves with waiting lists - and there is not enough funding in the NHS to meet the needs of those who wish to talk in a confidential setting rather than set out on the path of drugs. As with Lewis Wolpert ("Finding the exit from hell", 20 February), some find a combination of drugs and therapy the way out but for many a few sessions with a skilled professional listener can transform their lives. KATE NOWLAN Director, Wessex Counselling

Service, Frome, Somerset

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Director, Corporate

De Beers, London EC1

Communications

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IN BRIEF

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Angola in partnership with the

Angolan government, through

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diamond entity. De Beers has

Sir: Dr Digby James suggests

(letter, 22 February) that

contamination of UK food

Sir. I am a grandmother and psychotherapist. I watch with deep unease the exhaustion and dissatisfactions of my daughters and their friends, trying to balance their work, relationships and mothering.

I see my young grandchildren and their friends awash with toys and activities, but yearning for quiet quality time with their mothers. They are often restless and unable to concentrate.

Many things have changed for the better since I was a mother in the 1960s, but vital aspects seem resultant deep satisfaction and pleasure we both derived from it. The ability to relate and to build self confidence in children can't be

We need to honour and value the mothering process. It's important. Women need to feel validated by it. Their health and that of their children depends upon it. JOY ISAACS

London SW14

Sir: There is evidence that stress precipitates depression in the vulnerable but we do not know whether this is a modern phenomenon. Rates of clinical depression appear to be the same

plants by American genetically modified food plants cannot be avoided because their seeds can be brought here in the human gut. He cites the tomato, because its seed can survive cooking and eating and, apparently, sewage treatment works. If this were really the case. Dr James would find feral tomatoes on any river bank. Though some visiting politicians might benefit from enemas on arrival, it would be preferable if our own respected the views of those who elected them to office. NICK BIRD

Bath

the world over - the percentage of people suffering from clinical depression in Paris is the same as those in Beirut. What Deborah Orr seems to be

talking about is not so much clinical depression as trying to recover a sense of wellbeing within society, something that the pressures of modern life and breakdown of family structures has eroded.

Antidepressant pills do not cure unhappiness. Despair in the body politic will not respond to pills but to fundamental changes in our terrible illness that is clinical depression.

RICHARD HORNSBY Director, Action Against Depression London SW1

#### Welsh ballot

Sir: If Rhodri Morgan had contacted me about his concerns over the Wales Labour Part v leadership I would have been happy to offer him an assurance that the result was not leaked in any form from Unity Security **Balloting Services. Despite** speaking and writing to me on many occasions between 28 October and the close of the ballot, he did not raise the issues mentioned in your report "Morgan says Welsh ballot was rigged" (24

February). Labour Party members in Wales want to get on with promoting the Government's achievements - such as delivering an extra £1bn for the health service in Wales – and exposing the dangerous and divisive policies of our Tory and Nationalist opponents. Attacks on party staff are easy to make, but they do lasting damage to the party by undermining members' MARGARET McDONAGH General Secretary The Labour Party London SW1

#### Unfair arts attacks

Sir: Everybody in theatre will strongly support the excellent case Vilma Hollingbery makes (letter, 24 February) for the survival of the endangered but essential ingredient of Britain's international theatrical acciaim that is the regional repertory network.

Sir Peter Hall (Comment, 22 February) and Sheridan Morley (letter, 24 February) are also gutsy champions of theatre's cause but they do a disservice to the arts with their blanket attacks on the Government.

How can Sir Peter say the Government decided it "needs less music in our schools" when it has just found £180m extra to achieve the opposite? How can Sheridan call it "the most hostile Government in my lifetime" to theatre, when it has just given the largest percentage increase to the Arts Council in 20 years?

Why do neither of them acknowledge what Chris Smith has achieved for free admission to museums, or the support of dance and drama students, or the making of Lottery money available for arts activities, not just for buildings?

I've never heard a Treasury spokesperson of any government speak in favour of subsidy for the arts, despite the fortune the arts earn for the Treasury. Nevertheless Chris Smith has got increases for the Arts Council for the next three years. It isn't enough money to ensure that all performing arts organisations can lift their heads above crisis management, but it should have been used to help more than it

Sir Peter gets the question right when he asks why the 15 per cent increase the Arts Council received transmitted into 0 per cent for the majority of smallscale drama and open touring companies and into pathetically little for regional theatres.

Sir Peter's Shadow Arts Council will achieve nothing for beleaguered theatres if it succumbs to factually incorrect, ungenerous attacks on the Government which divide the arts community and its natural champions. PHILIP HEDLEY Artistic Director Theatre Royal Stratford East London E15

#### Coping with pain

Sir. Although John Atkins (letter, 22 February) starts by disagreeing with the views of Jeremy Laurance amount of one, to one quality time:

ways of living and working. Drug

("Stoicism nlight save the NHS", 16

we offered our children and the

vital part of the treatment of the

same point. The treatment of the between symptoms and attendance at a doctor's surgery is affected by individual differences.

Considerable research has been undertaken to identify the ways that cultural, social, gender and individual differences affect the way that people interpret pain and other physical problems and thus influence decisions to seek professional help. A health system that is aware of this will be more efficient in allocating resources to those with the most need.

For instance, those with a more "vigilant" approach to physical symptoms do worse at the acute phase of illness but are better when more active rehabilitation is required; those patients who are more "passive" are correspondingly better at accepting acute illness but less effective in handling the later stages when more personal responsibility for improvement is required. CATHERINE DOOLEY Consultant Clinical Psychologist East Horsley, Surrey

#### The last gasp

Sir: Now that in about a year's time Benson and Hedges will no longer be appointed by Her Majesty, the Queen, ("No more patrons pending", 10 February) how will a normal citizen be able to die for his or her country? DANIEL ROBERTS

# If you're so smart, how come your hat's on back to front?

"SEE THAT report in the paper about the mice?" said the man at

When people in pubs ask questions like that, they do not require an answer. They are merely announcing that they are about to tell you all about it, and are requesting a gap in the conversation, rather

like a motorist signalling to pull out. "What mice were they then?" said the man with the dog, courteously slowing down and letting him have access to the flow of talk.

"Californian mice," said the man at the bar. "Apparently some scientists in California have shown that jogging is not just good for the body, it's also good for the mind. People who take exercise have their mental faculties sharpened at the same time as their physical fitness is improving."

"So, where do mice come into this?" said the resident Welshman, speaking, I think, for all of us. "Because the scientists did all the experiments on mice," said the

man at the bar. There was a pause. "How did they get the mice to go

jogging?" said the resident Welshman, and again I think he spoke for all of us. "How far did they have to run?"

said the lady with orange hair, sipping her orange juice. Being Californian mice, did they all wear tiny baseball caps turned backwards?" said the man

with the dog. "As they jogged, did they listen to tiny Sony Walkmans?"

"Or Sony Walkmice?" "And were they sponsored by Nike or Adidas?

"Listen!" said the man at the bar. "All I know is that they did the experiments on mice! It doesn't say what the experiments were. But it cannot be beyond the wit of man to devise an experiment which exercises a mouse without making him wear tiny trainers. A treadmill, for example. An exercise wheel..."

"How cruel," said the orange lady. "Humans jog voluntarily. Why make mice do it compulsorily?" "If I were a laboratory mouse."

said the man at the bar, "I'd rather do a bit of exercise than smoke cigarettes or wear lipstick. Anyway, it's quite possible that exercise does sharpen your thinking."
"If that were true," said the

Welshman, "then footballers and athletes would be the best debaters. and Jeremy Paxman and Melvyn Bragg would be tongue-tied."



KINGTON

'It cannot be beyond the wit of man to exercise a mouse without making him wear tiny trainers'

"I believe Melvyn Bragg plays football occasionally," said the orange lady, "and Jeremy Paxman

is said to be very fond of fishing." "Lot of bloody exercise you get fishing," said the Weishman. "Can you imagine Paxman striding up

and down as he fishes? I think not? "Can you imagine Paxman interrogating the fish?" said the man at the bar. "Can you imagine him turning a beady eye and a curled lip on a bream and saying: 'Are you really trying to tell me that a bream like you, and thousands of bream in the same position, intend to hold the country to ransom by deliberately not taking my bait? That seems a pretty poor show to me...' "

There came one of those pauses when everyone realises the conversation is in a cul-de-sac.

"I tell you what," said the orange lady, reversing sharply and rejoining the main road, "if jogging gave you increased mental ability, it would stop you jogging."

"How'd you reckon that?"

Well, the more you jogged, the more you'd see things clearly, and you'd see clearly that jogging is bad for you. All that pounding on the road messes up your joints. You breathe in polluted air. You tend to get run over Bad for you. As your brain got sharper, you'd see that. You'd give up."

"If you followed that argument through," said the man with the dog, "you'd then lose your mental sharpness after you'd given up. And then you'd forget why you'd given up and take up jogging again."
"It must be incredibly boring,

jogging," said the orange lady. "Otherwise why would they listen to music on those headphones?" "You don't know it's music.

Might be story tapes. Might be Shakespeare. Might be Schopenhauer. Might be proof that jogging does sharpen the brain!"

"I had a hamster once," said the man who normally never spoke. "It lived in a cage and it had an exercise wheel. For a long time it never got on the wheel, then one day it got on and seemed to like it, because after that it increased its occupancy of the wheel and sometimes did four or five hours a day. It's my belief that all this exercise must have sharpened its mind, because one day we found the cage empty and the hamster gone. It had worked out how to open the door by itself. It had never been able to do that before it started jogging."

That seemed to settle the subject, so we all talked about something quite different.

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#### Elements of farce make this tragedy even more painful

SOMETIMES IT takes an element of farce to make tragedy really hurt. And yesterday supplied more than enough of that to puncture any misplaced notion that, with the publication of the Macpherson report and the solemn response to it of the police and the political class (including the newspapers), wrongs had been put right and Britons could now move forward together towards a bright non-racist future.

The sick racists of Eltham had other ideas. And then the absurdities of the day added to the mockery of the good intentions of Wednesday. More police officers were allocated yesterday to investigating the desecration of the memorial to Stephen Lawrence than were detailed to the original incident in which he was fatally stabbed. Overnight, that stretch of south London pavement had been kept under surveillance by a dummy police camera.

Overnight, too, the black officers who had been deployed visibly at key points all over London, such as outside Downing Street, disappeared, to be replaced by the usual officers. We must hope that this is not a metaphor for the Met's cosmetic acknowledgement of its problems over race.

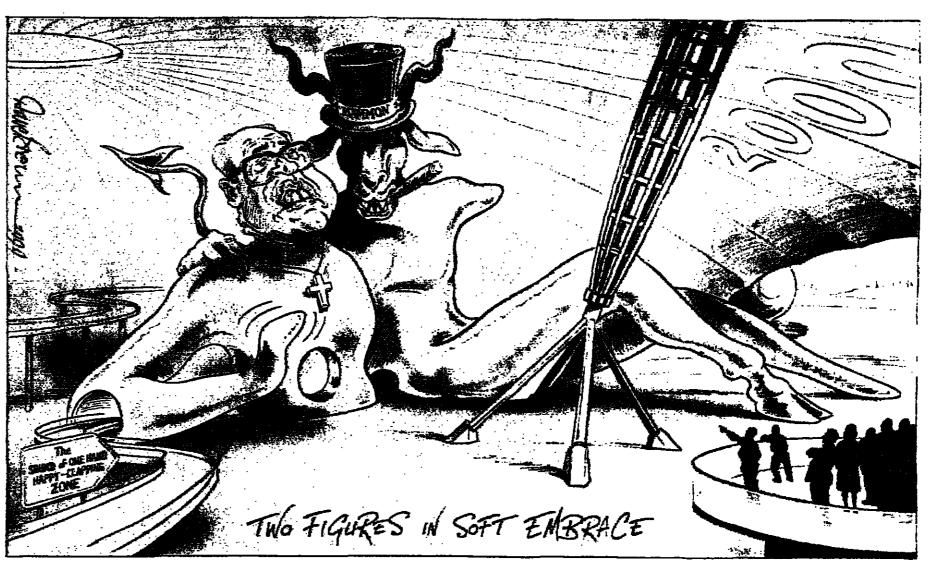
Meanwhile, it emerged that the Macpherson report which only hours before had been hailed as a model of integrity and careful investigation - had inadvertently identified a number of witnesses who had given evidence against the men accused of the murder. (And remember that the father of one of the suspects has a history of intimidating witnesses.)

All of which rather undermines the hope that the report will indeed "act as a watershed in our attitudes to racism", as Jack Straw declared on Wednesday. Will Macpherson in 1999 really mark a change or will it, like Scarman in 1982, run quickly into the sands of confusion and delay?

Many moving things were said this week, and yesterday's catalogue of disasters cannot wholly erase the solemnity and seriousness of them. What is more, many of these moving things were said by the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary. No previous home secretary would have gone on television to admit that, in general, black and Asian people are treated as second-class citizens by the public services.

For all that, however, there must be a question-mark over whether the Establishment really wants things to change. It would not be too cynical to observe that Britain's leaders have learnt to make the right noises, and to doubt whether the pace of change will match the urgency of the rhetoric. It would be more than disappointing, for example, if the Government did not legislate to enact the Macpherson recommendations until after the next general election.

It was obvious that the task of improving race relations way ahead will be turbulent and chaotic.



#### A vital test for modern Turkish democracy

THE TURKISH "Eagle-has-landed" seizure of Abdullah Ocalan in Kenya last week does not bode well for his chances of a fair trial. The leader of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, was illegally arrested and bundled away without due process. Mr Ocalan has been charged with treason and is currently imprisoned on an Alcatraz-like island near Istanbul. If convicted he faces the death penalty. Turkey must ensure that he is given a fair trial, to prove to the world that it respects the rule of law.

Turkey is knocking hard on the gates of the European

has found against Turkey for house-burning, the use of rape as torture, and extrajudicial killings. Many of the 300 law suits concerning Turkey that are currently before the court relate to the activities of the State Security Court, a semimilitary tribunal, which will try Mr Ocalan. The European Court has adjudged that these bodies' "lack of independence and impartiality has been established". Mr Ocalan is a civilian and as such should receive a normal criminal trial for EU's intentions towards the Muslim world. the charge of treason.

The Turkish parliament has already signed and ratified both the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and the UN Declaration on Civil and Political Rights. These documents, as well as Article 90 of the Turkish constitution, enjoin upon the Turkish state the obligation to give defendbourg. But there is much yet to do, given that the court The slaughter of Bosnia's Muslims made many suspect Ruskin: "When we build, let us think we build for ever".

that the EU is a revived Christendom. If Turkey cleans up its act the EU must tell it when it can join - or, if it is not allowed to do so, why it cannot. The EU must not hide its objection to embracing a large non-European Islamic country behind the faults in Turkey's immature democracy and human rights record. The Ocalan trial is a test not only of Turkey's commitment to the rule of law, but also of the

#### A new home

WE MAY not know who the mayor of London is going to be, but we do know where he (or she) is going to sit. Sir Richard Rogers' futuristic new design has won the comants a fair trial without torture or other abuses of their petition to be the new home for the Greater London Union, and its moves to bring its conduct into line with the human rights. As Mr Ocalan was not allowed to see a lawyer Authority. It will be bold, perhaps handsome, but will it last? in Britain was never going to be straightforward or easy, ECHR are welcome. It has given its citizens the right of until a week after his detention, the conditions in which Given the transience of past London regimes, let us hope but yesterday's events served as a sharp warning that the personal petition to the European Court of Justice at Stras- Turkey is holding him are not helping to secure his rights. that Sir Richard's block will be inspired by the words of

# Will Mr Straw let this report quietly gather dust on the shelf?

Macpherson report, by no means the politan Police saw nothing wrong in most horrifying in which it describes the behaviour of Inspector Stephen Groves, the first police officer of any seniority to arrive at the scene of bers of the Inquiry that those in-Stephen Lawrence's murder. Mr volved should, even now, believe they Groves is not a detective and he is not acted with efficiency and skill and that one of the five officers whom the enquiry identified as bearing the inadequate nature of the... initial reheaviest responsibility for the catastrophic investigation which followed the murder. Mr Groves acts in a way which the report fairly describes as

He does not bother to find out from Stephen Lawrence's distraught friend Duwayne Brooks what, let alone whom, he has seen, and after a perfunctory examination of the scene goes off to a nearby pub with a police constable to find out if anyone knows anything about what he unquestioningly assumes has been a fight. No one does. If he had even bothered to ask dations, not least the regulation of his fellow police officers at the scene. let alone Mr Brooks, they could have told him that several white youths had been seen running away from that same pub.

According to the report: "It is apparent to all of us that the direction and control exercised by Mr Groves was almost non-existent. Nobody gave proper instructions to the officers in the earliest stages of the investigation, and no plan was made which might have led to the discovery and arrest of the suspects who had run down Dickson Road."

The point of this is not to make a "scapegoat" - to use today's vogue word - of Mr Groves. It is simply to not be allowed to obstruct the central

all this. In a masterpiece of understatement, the report comments that it was "most disappointing to memthey should have no regret as to the sponse". There are few limits, in other words, to the police's blindness to its own failings.
This is one of several reasons for

the lively fears that the Macpherson report will go the way of the Scarman report in 1982 - into the long grass reserved for seemingly momentous enquiries, which provoke a huge national emotional spasm at the time, and are then quietly forgotten. Another is the doubt, obliquely voiced at yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet, that at least some of the recommenracist remarks in private, raise the spectre of Eighties Labour political correctness, and need to be approached with great caution. Yet another is the fact that the head of Sir Paul Condon has not rolled.

There are also those who will claim that yesterday's row over the appendices shows the report is jinxed. That witnesses brave enough to voice to the police their suspicions about who was responsible for the murder, then find that the culprits go free, and then have their own names made public, can only result from a truly first-class

But grave as it is, the row should



#### **DONALD MACINTYRE**

The main point is whether the Home Secretary is a 'frightened politician' when dealing with the police

message of the report. For there are grounds for thinking that Macpherson may, in the end, be a more culturechanging event than was Scarman. First of all, the climate in which Scarman reported was rather different. The findings were followed by the Falklands war, a jingoistic election, and most importantly of all, a miners' strike in which pro-active policing was perceived by the prime minister as having prevented the country sliding into anarchy and after which the

boys in blue could do no wrong. Politicians are anyway usually frightened of the police. They fear the power of their votes, and they fear even more the prospect that punchups with their trade unions - now among the most powerful in the country – will lead to doubts about ministers' commitment to law and

best to leave them well alone.

Indeed, the politics of policing over the last 18 years are instructive. This is primarily a story about racism; but it is also a story about what level of breathtaking negligence, and resistance to the changing social climate, the police service above all others can get away with. What on earth has this got to do with Stephen Lawrence? Well, if you believe that the better Chief Officers - and there isn't any doubt, from his record in improving the Met that Sir Paul is one of those - don't want forces which treat black people in the way the Lawrence family were treated, then it follows that this is at

least partly a problem of management. One of the side effects of the Macpherson report is to show just how incompetent, as well as racist, many senior police officers are as managers. Clinical efficiency, or at least the observance of elementary procedures, might not have prevented Neville and Doreen Lawrence from being patronised and humiliated. But it might have gone some way to bringing their son's murderers to court.

But that's not the main point. The real one is whether Jack Straw falls into the "frightened politician" category in his dealings with the police. All the evidence so far suggests that he does not. It is not simply that he has forced them to accept efficiency savings in return for the £1.24bn new money they will get in the next three years, or that he has actually imposed on the police disciplinary procedures which bear some relation to the real world. He also believes in that old left-

again - of "accountability" and of which the new London police authority can - and should - be the outstanding example. (It was, after all, Straw who, as a radical backbencher in 1980, promoted a Private Member's Bill to introduce all-elected police authorities, and he has never lost his interest in making police authorities more effective.) When, as it will next week, the police inspectorate produces a report showing that some police authorities have even worse records than the Met in failing to appoint and promote black police officers, it will be as a

result of his active encouragement. Macpherson aptly quotes Sir John Woodcock, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary, as saying that despite the myth of Dixon of Dock Green, the "police were never really the police of the whole people" but were "set up to protect the affluent from what the Victorians described as the dangerous classes" - in other words social control - and there now needs to be a contract between police and a "new generation of the public".

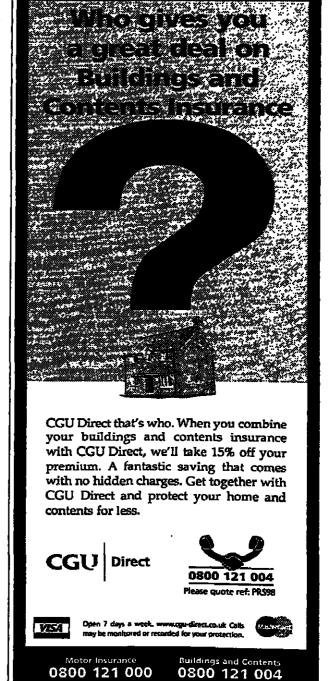
We shouldn't be complacent. But we shouldn't be over-pessimistic either. Labour wouldn't be in the position to give the police the kicking they deserve unless Tony Blair had made it reliable on law and order. But it now is in such a position. The Macpherson report will not itself solve the problems of police racism. But it does provide a text for the contract proposed by Woodcock. It means a huge, gutwrenching change for the police - but a fine objective for a left-of-centre government. As Straw surely recognises.

#### OUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's very nice to still be a babe-magnet in your seventies." Hugh Hefner,

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The reverse side also has a reverse side." Japanese proverb



0800 121 007

0800 121 008

WHAT MAKES James Byrd Jr's a forgiving God. For us, justice brutal death so mind-numbing and bewildering is that it was committed out of pure, unadulcause Byrd was a black man, but because he was an inditrue if the victim had been Indian. The individuals who can receive the mercy only of where a nearly all-white jury

will be the death penalty. Joplin Globe

terated hate. The death IT WAS a crime that proved this sentence is justified not be- nation and its people are still capable of being shocked. The racially motivated murder of vidual. The same would be James Byrd was a crime of unimaginable brutality. Jasper Asian, Hispanic, Caucasian or is a place where Byrd, 49, could be dragged to his death on a 24could conceive of and carry out ft chain by white supremacist so heinous an act deserve and King. But Jasper is also a place

**MONITOR** 

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD US comment on the sentencing of JW King for the murder of James Byrd

can render a verdict and a THERE COULD be no more statement concerning how we appropriate punishment for should treat one another. If it someone who deliberately incan happen in Jasper, then why not everywhere?

flicted so much pain on an innocent victim and so much lingering damage on the fam-

ily left behind. Mr Byrd's relatives and the entire Jasper community will have to live with memories of that unspeakable day. There also are lessons from Jasper's ability to pull together following a tragedy of this magnitude. The community has become closer as a result of Mr Byrd's death. The road back from this horrible crime will be long. But Tuesday's conviction provided an important first step. Dallas Morning News

IT WAS not enough for John William King to display his hatred of blacks by adorning his body with racist tattoos or through his membership in the Confederate Knights of America, a racist group he joined while in fail. Both of those actions were within his rights. John William King had no right, however, to kidnap, maim and murder an innocent man. After the jury's swift judgment he must pay dearly. The Washington Post

### **PANDORA**

RUPERT MURDOCH'S plans to own the millennium are suffering a series of embarrassing reversals. A newspaper called The Times had planned to erect a hideous 'millennium statue' in the Royal Observatory gardens. Greenwich's longsuffering citizenry successfully protested, forcing Murdoch's minions to redraft their planning application. The tasteless advertising that formed an integral part of the original "sculpture" is now to feature in a "more recondite" position, according to Greenwich Council

But a fresh disaster looms Old Dirty Digs may well be adept at buying off Blair with his tabloid trash, but the Windsor family's retainers may prove an altogether tougher proposition. The Royal Fine Arts Commission has come down firmly against this ill-advised gimmick. taking the view that it "has consistently opposed advertising in the Royal Parks". After all, if the commission's supremo, Lord St John of Fawsley, nodded the stunt through it would set a precedent for introducing American-style billboards throughout thousands of acres of unspoilt parkland.

THERE'S MORE. Many Greenwich locals are increasingly uncomfortable with a tawdry LED displaying "breaking news" that the rag wants to dump on the meridian line. The meridian, agreed as "the official starting point of the year 2000" by an international conference in 1884 currently runs through the Royal Observatory's courtyard. It is marked by a fibre optic white light, stunningly elegant in its simplicity. Greenwich Council has prudently insisted on monitoring the tacky replacement display's output. "I assume this is to stop news items such as More Power to Our **Glorious New Leader** Wendy Deng'." one unhappy in case you've just joined us, to the new Mrs



Richardson (pictured) and Anna Friel are set to star. Coincidentally Robert Fox. Closer's producer, used to be married to Richardson. Fox previously produced David Hare's The Judas Kiss which starred none other than Liam Neeson – the man whom Richardson married after she left Fox. Showbiz – it's just one big happy family...

..UNLESS YOU'RE panellist

Bryan Robson on the 9 March edition of BBC TV's A Question of Sport. The programme's publicist promises "a barrage of banter" between Middlesborough manager Robson and his arch-rival, Sunderland boss Peter Reid. But Bry-Guy is recovering from a parrage of blows after his wife walked into a Leeds botel at 2am earlier this week and discovered him playing away with Sky sports presenter Claire Tomlinson. Tomlinson had broken her ankle, and Robson's furious wife used the autocutie's crutch to attack her straying spouse.

Can the Bry-Guy recover in

time for the taping – or will

he pull out?

ONE GUY who's not pulling out anytime soon, Mohammed "Mo" Fayed, will be a merrier mogul this morning - the ban on his favourite Iranian pistachio nuts has been quashed. He can thank Jeff Rooker, the food safety minister currently defending genetically modified victuals. In an aside to the new Food Standards Select Committee. the Brummie MP said he "almost had a fatwa put on me" by deranged Iranian planters. In banning their importation 16 months ago, the ministry alleged their nuts were diseased. We can all now sleep safely in each others' beds in the knowledge they're not.

THAT OLD GM smoothie Lord Sainsbury's charity, the Gatsby Foundation, Liverpool University to compile archive records for the defunct Social **Democratic Party How** 

odd to find that the generous Gatsby also forked out £127.000 to the Social Market Foundation, the robustly right-wing think tank that's spawned many of Conservative Central Office's current elite. So much for the Sainsbury's loyalty

Pandora can be contacted by email at independent.

# Where are the decadent young?

AS MOST people know, the young these days are a fairly dreary bunch. They care about the environment. They think the European Union is a good thing. They worry about Aids and baby seals and overpopulation. They want to work hard and get ahead, though on the whole their ambition is directed towards the media rather than towards more obvious ways of making money. They don't do drugs and they don't get drunk; they Just Say No. They write letters to newspapers, giving the rest of us the views of a generation, and they always remember to write '(aged 16)" after their names, as if

anybody cared. But the worst of it is the awful, apcalling music they seem to like. They like girl groups, they like songs that come with dance routines attached, they like cuteness and cleanness. They like the sort of acts that were dreadful old hasbeens even when I was a boy - I mean, I'm old enough to remember Abba and Cher and M-People first time round, and can assure you that we all thought they were completely crap even then.

The young like dressing up in feather boas and platform shoes, and when they go to night-clubs they



**PHILIP** HENSHER

A generation has hijacked the notion of cool, and has hung on to it into early middle age

want to revive the Seventies, and to hide the depth of their naffness under a brave display of pretend naffness. All in all, I must say, you would not have them in the house unless you absolutely had to. The fact that the younger gen-

eration seem to have given up on the obligation to pursue new heights of debauchery that is an essential part of youth culture does not, however, free the rest of us to take on that obligation. In doing so, we

wouldn't be perpetuating our rau- tween Busoni and Stravinsky; I cous youth; it's much more likely that we would simply become that dreadful thing, an ageing trendy.

I had a bad experience the other

week, and suddenly realised that aging trendiness had settled upon me like a mouldering kaftan. Indeed, now that it's happening to me, I start to think not only that ageing trendiness is a universal condition, but also that it may not be all that bad.

A few months ago, I recorded a radio programme for Radio 3, a sort of Desert Island Discs for the intelligentsia, called Private Passions. The idea is to choose and talk about your favourite pieces of music. Alongside the customary high-art choices, though, I wanted to have a dance track since, as everyone pointed out, most of the music I listen to is less *allegro non troppo* and more 140 bpm. And I was rather tempted by the idea of someone tuning in to hear Michael Berkeley saying, with exquisite tact, "And that was 'Smack My Bitch Up' by the

popular music combo the Prodigy." Anyway, I was casting around for a good track in November when someone sent me a new release. It hit the mark immediately, and Fatboy Slim went into the selection be-

genuinely thought it would make the programme a bit more cuttingedge. You can guess the rest. The Fat One released the track two months ago as a single; it instantly became vieux jeu by going to number one in the hit parade for precisely one week; its creator got engaged to Zoë Ball, and revealed that his real name was in fact Quentin. How I would have laughed, in my youth, at the spectacle of some thirty-something attempting to demonstrate how cutting edge he

and if you want to indulge your merriment, the programme goes out at noon on Saturday. But really, the more you think about it, the less it seems apparent that the banner of metropolitan style is being carried by the kids. If you go to a really decadent and sexy night-club such as Trade, it is not full of 20-year-olds; most people there are in their thirties. The boys and girls, on the other hand, are bouncing round eagerly at Seventies revival nights, or standing with their

was by enthusing about a two-

month-old number-one hit single,

transatlantic supermodel in her early twenties, but a Clerkenwell conceptual artist of 35.

The only thing odd about this is that a generation has hijacked the notion of cool, and has managed to hang on to it into early middle age. You often read some journalist expressing amazement that the party animals of the 1987 Summer of Love are still partying hard, 12 years on. But it isn't so strange; what is strange is that 18-year-olds haven't come up with any very compelling alternative.

The truth is that people tend to continue through their lives with the habits they established when they were young. Our grandparents, for instance, didn't start going to tea dances when they hit retirement, That was what they'd done all their lives. And it's pretty obvious to me that, in 40 or 50 years' time, the chemical generation will still be dancing, with a warm feeling of nostalgia, to the Renegade Master Funky Monkey and Fatboy Slim.

We won't be ageing trendies any more; by then we'll be going round saying "Young people nowadays...", and shaking our heads at whatevmouths open at the Ministry of er truly appalling nonsense they Sound. The epitome of envisble cool isn't, as it was 10 years ago, a

# Sorry, Sir Peter, but things are getting better for theatre

THE ARTS argument has been a long-running serial over the last 50 years. Sometimes it threatens to be a soap opera; just occasionally it becomes a slanging match.

Peter Hall, in his article in Monday's Independent, attacked the Government and the Arts Council's arts funding in relation to drama. It is a great pity that his case is so easy to rebut on the grounds of its inadequate research. As Peter Hewitt, chief executive of the Arts Council of England, pointed out in this newspaper, there are a number of holes in the Hall argument. Most notably, he wrongly claims that increased government funding has not got through to the front line - although the National Theatre, 10 per cent to some orchestras and 100 per cent to some small organisations.

Hewitt could have added that Hall's extraordinary charge that "it seems Arts Council policy to provoke the end of many small theatres so that resources can be concentrated on the big boys" is all but scandalous. Is he really suggesting that those who work at the Arts Council and are devoted to breeding the arts in this country and helping them in so far as they can are deliberately setting out to crush small theatres? And which ones does he mean? The Palace, Watford - 11 per cent in-crease in grant? The Salisbury Playhouse - 11 per cent? The Derby Playhouse - 6 per cent increase? As I said, it is a pity that he is so vulnerable; a pity, because Peter Hall should carry authority that is perilously close to rabble-rousing.

I like Peter very much. I admire his work. I share his hopes for the future of the arts in this country and I have at the very least spoken on as many platforms, written as many



#### **MELVYN BRAGG**

Hall's charge that the Arts Council is provoking the end of many small theatres is scandalous

articles over the last 20 years, been at as many last-ditch meetings, been as often publicly derided for "loveliness", as he has - and I have not changed.

But the attitude and the policy of the government to the arts in this country did begin to change in May 1997. It was a change for the better and it is gathering pace. Not to acknowledge this - worse, deliberately to misrepresent, undermine and sneer at it - is quite simply unfair. We should take our line from Orwell and try to "tell it like it is". To ignore what is good because it is far from perfect, to ignore improvements because they are not instantaneous and universal, to ignore the fact (which a wily old political animal like Peter Hall must understand better than most) that policy can be made in a few days but will take time. often a year or so to go through the damned process that turns ideas into actions - to ignore all this is to be rashly unfair again, and open to

For why is this ignored? Peter explains that his recent unsuccessful application to the Arts Council for a £500,000 grant to run a company in London (incidentally, this sum is more than the combined grants given to the Donmar Warehouse, the Actors Touring Company and the Theatre de Complicite) should be brought against him. Alas, what does he expect? Surely after running the most heavily subsidised companies in British theatre (subsidies he used brilliantly) for decades, and after building up excellent filmmaking and commercial theatre careers partly as a result of this, he above all people must expect the usual careful considerations when lic money for a theatre arena (London) that is already pretty well served. He can scarcely complain that there will be those who treat his subsequent attack on the Arts Council as, if only in part, tinted with re-

venge or at least resentment. But there are other reasons why the current good news - not enough of course, just a start - is easier to ignore. There exist now, because of the explosion of theatre over the last 25 years, and there will exist into the foreseeable future, so many companies that there will inevitably be some that are under-subsidised. As long as money is finite, that will be

the case. Peter Hall knows this more than most. Although subsidy for the arts has gone from £8m in the Seventies to £240m today, plus the hundreds of millions coming from the lottery. there is still not enough for the burgeoning demand. But Chris Smith's achievement in getting a way-aboveaverage increase in the arts budget in the comprehensive spending review has to be recognised as a firm



Peter Hall at the Old Vic theatre

Kippa Matthews

beginning, and a clear signal. Smith has drawn a line and clearly money is the only answer than to face up to other facts. Some companies, for example, fall away, lose their grip and decay. Pouring good money after bad may not be as useful as encouraging a new company or growing a company that is already doing fine work.

It is easier to ignore the painstaking work of the National Campaign for the Arts (with which I've been associated for many years) and set up a glittering Alternative Arts Council, some of whose "names" - Tom Stoppard, Jeremy Isaacs - immediately declare that they know nothing about it. This borders on mere gesture politics.

There is still much to be angry about in the arts, but most of it is largely the result of the 18-year inheritance from the Tories. Chris best revenge.

It is easier to pretend that more he is fighting the battle. He is condemned to be the man who can never do enough. But he is far, far better than what we had before, and he deserves a fair chance. I fear that Peter Hall's regular ex-

ercises in public demonisation will do little more than further convince those who need to be won over that the "luvvies" will never be satisfied - they have no sense of proportion, are not prepared to give public support where it could be effective. and are curiously addicted to the quick fixes of opposition.

It cannot be said often enough that much needs to be done - and more's the pity that Peter Hall refuses to see that at last his cause and mine and that of thousands of others is being taken up by a government. Joining in is sometimes the

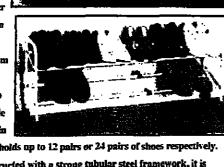
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#### Be rational about biotechnology LET ME begin with a biology to devise paths to a story. A man in a ship cure. You cannot by sheer and Scientific Committee, and also to the Government.

sees a radar signal coming from straight in front. He picks up the radio and says: "You are on a collision course. Please change your direction." Back comes the reply: "No, you change." So he tries again: "This is a naval vessel. I must insist that you change your course." And he gets the same reply: "No, you change." With disaster looming, he decides to pull out all the stops: "I am in command of an aircraft carrier, and I am sailing with a full escort. I order you to change your

accusations.

reply: "And I am a lighthouse keeper. Your move." The big issues in science can be likened to the lighthouse, as Richard Nixon found when he tried to cap President Kennedy's moon landing with his own campaign against can-

cer in the Seventies.

course." Unruffled comes the

The problems of sending a man to the moon could be overcome - all the principles were known, and the appropriate technology was at hand or could be developed. In the case of cancer, there was just not enough known of the basic

force, by direct onslaught, compel scientific truths to reveal themselves. We have learnt more about cancer from indirect basic research on animal viruses and from studies of how normal cells are programmed to divide. The major insights in science come from people who have the patience to develop an intimate understanding of a particular problem.

New science disrupts, and really good new science disrupts a good deal.

A hundred years ago, biotechnology was limited to the traditional arts of brewing and baking - fermentation technology. Less than 50 years ago, Watson and Crick unravelled the structure of DNA Today, you could entertain yourself by asking the person next to you what is the first thought that comes into his mind in response to the word

"biotechnology." The possibilities include DNA fingerprinting, cloning, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), cross-fertilisation, rapid economic growth. patenting of life forms, aggressive multinationals, regu-



### AARON KLUG

From a speech by the President of the Royal Society to the annual luncheon held at the Savoy Hotel, London

lation - to name but a few. And that's without mentioning Frankenstein's monster! The Royal Society has been

actively involved in developing policy in this area since the lays of the 1981 Spens report on biotechnology. We see it very much as our duty to follow all developments, to foresee them if at all possible, and to disseminate them to the public - particularly the informed public - to the Parliamentary

It was in this context that last September we published a

statement on genetically mod-

ified plants for food use. It is being used as a source document by the Government The use of GMOs has the potential to offer real benefits in agricultural practice, food quality and health, although there are many aspects of the technology that require further research and monitoring

informed debate on the subject. In view of the many misleading comments in the last week or two we are now setting up an expert group to review allegations that allergenic and toxic problems may arise in GM plants. Premature, partial or selective release, or misinterpretation of unsubstantiated research, only serves to mislead the general public in a complex area.

Rational debate based upon rigorously reviewed data is essential. There is a big difference between legitimate concern and scaremongering.

I think that the Prime Minister and the Government are right in their determination not to be bullied into abandoning GMOs by emotion and fears, but are steadily trying to find out the facts by trials and experiments.

The Government is currently full of biotechnology initiatives. The DTI has started co-ordinating a wide-ranging consultation on the biosciences that seeks to canvass public opinion. If this catches on, it could mark a turning-point for the way the "public" engages with the many scientific aspects of public policy.

We need a national and well-Which brings us back to the naval commander and the lighthouse keeper. All of us must learn to interpret the various signals on our radar screens. In this extended metaphor, I would include public opinion as a lighthouse. It is possible to negotiate with lighthouse keepers, but only if you bother to understand where

they are coming from. We now live happily with many things that were once abhorrent to public opinion. But there is nothing inevitable in that. If you misjudge the lighthouse, you will run aground. If you get it right, society will definitely be enriched.

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# Now that's entertainment



DEBORAH ORR

No one told us it was the 'documentaries' that would furnish us with wall-to-wall tripe on TV

REMEMBER THOSE pompous fools 10 years ago, who called themselves the mandarins of broadeasting, genuflected on the hour every hour to the memory of Lord Reith, and banged on endlessly in the broadsheets about how the deregulation of television would lead to a drop in broadcasting standards? These idiots, I distinctly remember, threatened us with the prospect of telly without any documentaries, and simply wall-to-wall cheap tripe instead.

Well, what boring old farts they were, weren't they? They knew absolutely nothing. If they were so smart, why didn't they predict what was really going to happen? Why didn't they tell us that in fact there would be documentaries on the television pretty much constantly?

Why didn't they see that it was the would furnish us with wan-us-maked the tripe? Why couldn't they understand that in this brave new world of TV we'd get both, and at the same time?

Wednesday evening's offering from Channel 4, The Real Story Of Airtours Air Rage, was a perfect example. An "investigation" into the air rage incident a few weeks ago in which 12 passengers were ejected from a flight to Montego Bay because their drunken and rowdy behaviour ended in a free-for-all, the programme spent half an hour talkng to passengers, air crew and the FBL and using actors to reconstruct scenes from the flight.

What did we learn from this documentary? That in an air rage incident a few weeks ago, 12 passengers were ejected from a flight to Montego Bay because their ended in a free-for-all. How very illuminating. And great fun. Until I saw the programme, I'd thought that rowdy behaviour in a confined and crowded public place was unseemly. Now I know it's merely entertaining.

Of course, the blossoming of air rage is rather entertaining generally isn't it? The Virgin stewardess who got her nose broken by Thomas Adams hasn't stopped laughing since the plaster came off, while the BA stewardess who was indecently assaulted by John Henson has admitted that she was a prude who



Three of the so-called 'Norfolk 12', who were put off an aeroplane after an 'air rage' incident, celebrate their return to their native Lewisham

didn't really know what bawdy humour was until she felt that hand sliding up her skirt.

Meanwhile, the BA woman pasnger who had her beadphones bitten in half by Lee Thresher before he punched out a window has expressed her gratitude that he diverted her attention from a mediocre film on a ridiculously small screen, and laid on a decent floor show instead

But most tickled of all is Karen Plumb, the BA stewardess who tried to control the in-flight boozing of her boss Michelle Beeken - who travels the world monitoring stanwhen she went wild on an off-duty trip to New York.

Karen and Michelle are now reported to spend many happy hours together flicking through the Spotlight actors catalogue, and speculating on who might play them when, after Michelle's disciplinary hearing and Karen's compensation hearing have been concluded, the documentary about their own air

rage incident is made. During one testy moment, as the girls became agitated over the question of which of them should be played by Cameron Diaz, Michelle

punched Karen on the other side of her face. Their producer was delighted, as this was perfect material for the making of the documentary about the making of the documentary. The producer was also able to suggest that Cameron could play Karen in the first film and Michelle in the second.

So everyone was very happy indeed. But not quite as happy as the documentary executives, who feel they have come up with a twist that will revitalise a much-loved film genre which of late has become a little tired. Busily reinventing the road movie as the road-rage movie. thousands of projects on the go.

Inevitably, the highest-profile of these is the biopic exploring the life of Kenneth Noye, although Hollywood producers are on tenterhooks lest the prosecution should fail and their plans be dashed.

The project, which has the working title I Don't Want To Live In Britain, explores Nove's pain that there's hardly anywhere left in the country where regular guys can go about their business without being questioned by the police. Currently, though, Noye is in Spain appealing against his extradition on the

grounds that he has been illegally identified as himself. Instead he wants to be known as Sean Penn from now on, in honour of the actor who, the rushes attest, is better at being him than he is.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to repeat other Hollywood successes of past years, a new production company, Ragesploitation, has announced the commissioning of a script that will rework the blockbuster based on a novel by Harold Robbins. Hotel Rage will detail the lives of various guests at a top hotel in Strathclyde, Scotland, as they abuse staff, destroy their and punch waiters. The thrilling finale will feature a fight involving

100 banqueting guests. The production company also hopes to go into production on a couple of the burgeoning hybrid spin-offs of the docu-rage phenomenon. Motel Rage, they promise, will deliver all the excitement of road rage, but with the kind of interiors that only hotel rage can deliver.

Holiday Inn Rage, though, is the big one, for it may be able to revive the flagging fortunes of the film musical. The trend didn't initially attract much attention, as it started

out fairly peacefully with a few sad old whiteys bemoaning the fact that rap had gone downhill since the innocent days of the Sugar Hill Gang and Grandmaster Flash. However, as the rap body count grew, Holiday Inn Rage became

more and more of a going concern. On Wednesday, the movement threw up its first big European hero. The French rapper Joey Starr was jailed for insulting an air hostess and punching her in the face. The air hostess, Lucie Mustel, admitted she had slapped him after he had commented on her looks.

"I just said that the myth of the lapsed," said Starr. The rapper, who fronts the band NTM (formerly known as Nique ta Mere, or "screw your mother"), will play himself in the film and start shooting as soon as his prison sentence has ended. He would like Ms Mustel to be played by Eddie, the dog from Frasier, but contractual problems are expected.

Other glorifications of violence, rudeness, drunkenness, misogyny and sheer bad temper are also beginning to surface on a small and large screen near you. The splatter movie is likely to be revived by

Graham Jepson HaemorRage. Since actors are merely expected to get so angry be-

fore camera that they start bleed-

ing from every orifice, this is being

touted as quite a money-spinner.

Soap operas, too, will get a shot in the arm as they overtly explore a theme they have been quietly working over for years. MarRiage has become a vengeful tool, whereby a person hates and despises someone of the opposite sex so much that they decide to make the rest of their lives a total misery.

Here in Canary Wharf, London, though, it is Silent I Rage that everyone is talking about. This ocgests that her marriage joke doesn't work because of the silent I. The columnist then rips the editor's Power Macintosh from his desk, bashes him on the head with it and hurls it out of an 18th-floor window. It imbeds itself in the Millennium Dome below and causes a national crisis. When the columnist is asked why she did it, she says that she wanted to see whether Lauren Hutton would agree to portray her, since both women have huge gaps between their front teeth. Immediately, everyone understands where

## **RIGHT** OF REPLY

MICHAEL **EDWARDES** 



The industrialist criticises a recent leading article in favour of the UK joining the euro

THE GOVERNMENT landed business with a heavy bill this week. The costs of making businesses euro-compliant will be up to five times the cost of dealing with the millennium bug. The single currency will tax British business before we have even decided to join. The price will be paid by consumers, and in lost jobs.

Less than a fifth of our GDP is exported to Euroland. The majority of businesses do not trade with the Eurozone: either they produce for domestic consumption, or they sell worldwide. So most businesses would get none of the supposed advantages of being in a regional currency zone, but they would pay all the penalties: higher business taxes and employment costs, and - most lethally - a common interest rate, which might suit the Continent but could well not suit Britain.

The argument that fixing our exchange rate will bring us "stability" is not new. It was big business, via the CBI, that argued for Britain to join the Exchange Rate Mechanism. But the multinationals were not among 100,000 firms which went bankrupt as a result of crippling interest rates.

Of British businesses, 99.9 per cent employ less than 500 people. They are the engine of the economy responsible for a growing share of British employment. Tony Blair seemed to understand this ago, that "small and mediumsized businesses are where the jobs growth is going to be". A pity, then, that he ignored the warning of the Federation of Small Businesses and the Institute of Directors. Britain's unemployment

rate is half that of the Eurozone. We have created more iobs in the last six years than the rest of the EU. If the euro will be so good for our business and prosperity, why will it be so bad for jobs?

# Big time for the small hours

THERE WAS a time, not so long ago, when banks closed in the middle of the afternoon and did not open at all on Saturdays. Even large supermarkets closed their doors at 6pm and the few local shops which stayed open later carried a limited range of goods.

These days, it is not unusual to find bookshops open until 10pm and superstores which do not close at all during the week. If you live in a city and discover you have run out of bread in the early hours, you will probably be able to buy a rustic French loaf within a couple of miles of your home. A few months ago, in Western Australia, I went dancing in a nightclub in Perth until dawn. picked up breakfast at an all-night Mc-Donald's and ate it on a beach overlooking the Indian Ocean.

Kreitzman's subject, although it is a fea-



## FRIDAY BOOK

THE 24 HOUR SOCIETY BY LEON KREITZMAN, PROFILE BOOKS, £16,99

ture of his book that he has more to say about its functional aspects than its pleasures. Kreitzman, who is a marketing consultant, characterises the blurring of the temporal boundary between day and night as a social revolution, which has crept up on us without sufficient analysis. He sees it being driven by dramatic changes in the way we organise our lives, and made possible by advances in technology.

One of these changes is the emergence of women as a significant com-

ponent of the workforce, rendering the old system of identical office and shopping hours obsolete. A woman who leaves her office at 6pm needs flexible shopping hours, especially if she is a sin-

gle parent Globalisation is another factor, as multi-national corporations expect employees to work what used to be regarded as unsocial hours. Above all, though, Kreitzman's 24-Hour Society quaintly capitalised throughout the book, as though it has paying members is about consuming things, a state of affairs he regards as inevitable and

mostly benign. "Consumption may have transcended desire to become an end in itself," he concedes, "but rightly or wrongly consumption is the way in which those who consume pursue happiness. Maybe their time would be better spent in selfimprovement by reading a book, growing vegetables or learning a skill."

In fact, there is not necessarily a conflict here, given that a move towards more flexible ways of using time should give people more choices, not fewer. But what most of us want to do, according to Kreitzman, is a narrow range of activities based around shopping.

The key role of this activity in his argument can be gauged by the opening chapter, a paean to "the most innovative leisure and retail development in Britain". It turns out to be a drearysounding shopping centre and multiplex cinema five miles outside Bolton. This is an unfortunate place to start, especially as the heading ("The Future is in Bolton?") irresistibly demands the answer "no". But it gives the flavour of

what is to come in this superficial book -a warning that Kreitzman has missed rather a lot of tricks.

Although he admits the drawbacks of shift work, and suggests methods for making it more palatable, what he comes up with is not so much an exciting blueprint for the future as a depressing vision of a society in which people have little time to do anything but work frantically and shop. This is not my idea of fun; there are many activities I enjoy at three o'clock in the morning. but stocking up on groceries is not among them. Nor is it what I see other people yearning to do as I make my way home from a night-club.

At the same time, because it is market-driven, this new freedom brings anxieties, such as whether the staff of an all-night bar are content with their working hours. It is quite possible that extension of choice is being secured at an unacceptable cost to the workers who provide the infrastructure, especially as many of them do not belong to unions. Kreitzman is aware of some of these difficulties but unwilling or unable to grapple with them. This is in part because he thinks the drift to 24-hour operating is inevitable, so not worth disputing.

But it is also because he is interested chiefly in economics, leaving a conspicuous gap where the reader might justifiably expect a discussion of power. Is consumer demand really the only thing that matters? What happens to employees who discover they cannot adjust to working nights? The larger question, about the implications for government and society of a culture which remains open 24 hours, is bare-

ly addressed. This is a shame, because the shift identified by the book is both real and accelerating. A more subtle social commentator is needed to assess its impact. and it seems unlikely that The 24 Hour Society will be the last word on this neglected subject.

JOAN SMITE



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A. The Chrysler Building

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These are all manifestations of Leon FRIDAY POEM

what colour did we call the moon before Sappho told of its silver rose-like fingers? (white roses; white roses)

> was the moon a butterball? did Greeks eat cheese? or did they just run Marathons shirping yoghurt?

Greek skies were grey, Greek skies were never blue there was no word

> what colour was moonlight?

Anne MacLeod's second collection, 'Just the Caravaggia', is published by Poetry Salzburg (£8.45 Inc. p&p: payable to Wolfgang Görtschacher at Universität Salzburg, Institut für Anglistik, Akademiestr 24. A-5020 Salzburg, Austria)

# Lord Phillips of Ellesmere

DAVID PHILLIPS was an outstand- only against certain bacteria and it and many honorary doctorates ing scientist, one of the founding fathers of structural biology and a wise, influential figure in science and government

at the Royal Institution in London, solved the first structure of an enrelationship between enzyme structure and biological function. The work opened the way to the explosion in the numbers of protein structures that are now being determined with modern technology and for the insights that these structures provide for the benefit of fundamental research, medicine and agriculture.

Phillips was born in 1924 in Ellesmere, Shropshire, and educated at Oswestry Boys High School. His father was a master tailor and an active Methodist lay preacher. He fostered a lifetime interest in history; for David's 15th birthday he gave him Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.

Despite his interest in history, Phillips read Physics for his first degree at University College, Cardiff. His degree course was interrupted (1944-17) for service in the Navy as a radar officer on HMS Illustrious. a fleet aircraft carrier. He remained at Cardiff for his PhD and began work in crystallography under the supervision of A.J.C. Wilson, a noted contributor to the theory of intensity statistics of X-ray diffraction patterns. In those days crystallography involved the elucidation by X-ray diffraction methods of small molecule structures, such as ephedrine hydrochloride, a component of antidecongestant nasal drops.

After a post-doctoral period at the National Research Laboratories, Ottawa (1951-55), Phillips was attracted home in 1956 to the Royal Institution of Great Britain in London by Sir Lawrence Bragg.

Bragg had recently retired from the Professorship of Physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge. There he had encouraged fundamental studies by John Kendrew on myoglobin and Max Perutz on haemoglobin, the first protein crystal structures to be solved by X-ray diffraction methods. Bragg was keen to set up a protein crystallography laboratory in London and began to attract several crystallographers. Among these, in addition to Phillips, were Colin Blake, Tony North and Roberto Poljak, who came in late 1960 from the United States

bringing crystals of lysozyme.

Phillips realised that automating the collection of diffraction data was a prime objective for studies of large protein molecules. One of his first tasks was to join Uli Arndt in the design and construction of an automated diffractometer. This instrument, adapted to make multiple simultaneous measurements of intensities, was to have profound consequences. With the linear diffractometer Phillips and his team were able to achieve data of high accuracy that in turn led to precise structures. The instrument was first used to extend the data of the myoglobin crystals to 1.4Å resolution.

Work on lysozyme started in 1961. a time that Phillips described as the spring of hope. In 1922, seven years before his more famous discovery of penicillin, Alexander Fleming had published a paper on his discovery of lysozyme entitled "On a Remarkable Bacteriolytic Element Found in Tissues and Secretions". Fleming had been excited by lysozyme because the enzyme showed antibacterial activity. Unfortunately lysozyme was active

was not pursued as an antibacterial agent, although it is widely used

today as a tool in molecular biology. The solution of the X-ray struc-In 1966 he and his team, working ture of lysozyme was achieved in 1965, a time for a dual celebration with Bragg's 75th birthday. The zyme lysozyme From the structure structure showed the complete they were able to demonstrate the relationship between enzyme strucboth alpha-helices, that had previously been recognised in myoglobin, and beta-sheet, a structure that had been predicted by Linus Pauling but not hitherto observed in three dimensions.

I joined the Royal Institution in 1962 as a graduate student working under the supervision of David Phillips and in 1964 began crystallographic studies on lysozyme complexed with sugar molecules that were inhibitors the enzyme's reaction. We hoped by this method to locate the catalytic site; a procedure that Bragg described as "throwing a sop to Cerberus". By 1966 these experiments had led to a detailed interpretation of the lysozyme-

More than one minister said, 'I read my brief three times before Phillips enters my office.' The less-thaninformed opinion would be punished by a direct, glacial interrogative stare

inhibitor complex and the key elements of recognition at the catalytic site.

The next step was to work out how lysozyme recognised its substrate, part of the polysaccharide component of the bacterial cell wall. By molecular model building and by a series of logical arguments that brought to bear all the available biochemical evidence, Phillips was able to produce a proposal for the way in which a substrate must bind and to make proposals for the catalytic mechanism.

This was the first time that it had been possible to explain how an enzyme speeded up a chemical reaction in terms of the structural constraints and physical chemical principles. The extrapolation from inhibitor binding to the substrate binding was a remarkable leap of deductive reasoning, achieved in three days. Phillips described these three days as the most rewarding that he had ever spent.

Subsequently the proposed mechanism has been validated by a host of biochemical and structural experiments. For this work and his later achievements in protein crystallography Phillips was awarded the Feldberg Prize, the CIBA Medal of the Biochemical Society, the Royal Medal of the Royal Society, the Charles Leopold Meyer Prize of the French Academy of Sciences, the Wolf prize, the Aminoff medal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences process and in the decisions taken.

and fellowships.

Following Bragg's retirement in 1966, Phillips was appointed Professor of Molecular Biophysics in Oxford University, a move funded by the Medical Research Council and promoted by Hans Krebs (then Professor of Biochemistry in Oxford), Dorothy Hodgkin and John Pringle (then Professor of Zoology). Despite Krebs's enthusiasm for the newly created subject of molecular biophysics, there were several in biochemistry who were suspicious of the new group (a view which happily no longer prevails). The laboratory therefore became part of the Zoology Department where John Pringle had a vision of zoology that ran all the way from molecular structures to populations.

In Oxford there were new achievements in protein structures. In an article published in Scientific American, Phillips showed how knowledge of the lysozyme structure could predict possible folding pathways that the protein might adopt as it was being synthesised in the cell. In an early example of homology modelling, he was able to show how a protein distantly related in amino acid sequence (lact-albumin) might adopt the same structure as lysozyme.

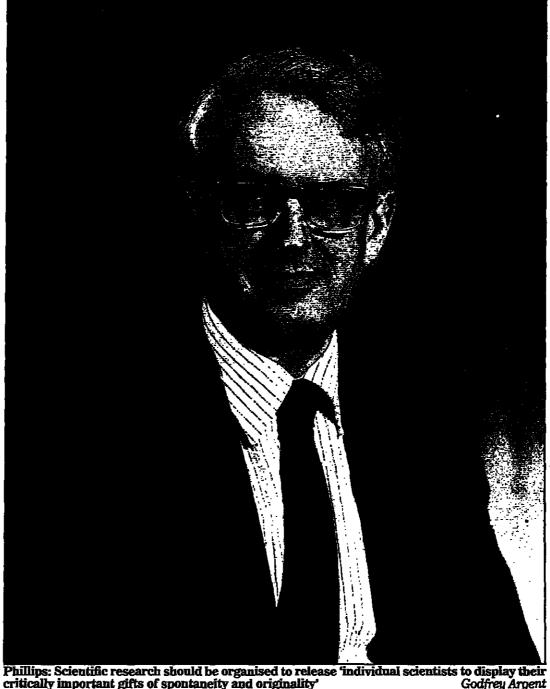
With graduate students he solved the structure of glycolytic enzyme, triose phosphate isomerase. This was the first example of an eight-fold alpha-beta barrel protein, a fold now recognised as the most common fold for many different proteins.

Phillips was a gifted lecturer who spoke without notes, a capability that perhaps he inherited from his Methodist father and forebears. This caused some concern to the BBC when they were televising the memorable Royal Institution Christmas Lectures delivered in 1980 and in which he was ably assisted in the lecture demonstrations by his daughter Sarah, then aged 18. He was a fluent and eloquent speaker.

Phillips was elected to the Royal Society in 1967. From about the mid-Seventies he began his second career as an influential figure in the administration of science. From 1976 to 1983 he was Biological Secretary and Vice-President at the Royal Society and during this time was instrumental in introducing the Royal Society University Research Fellowships, a scheme that offers up to 10 years' support for talented young researchers and which has done much to promote the independent careers of gifted individuals.

In his 1991 Bernal lecture at Birkbeck College, Phillips put forward his view that scientific research must be organised so that, "combined with the provision of the necessary infrastructure, it can release individual scientists to display their critically important gifts of spontaneity and originality. These were his goals when for 10 years from 1983 he was Chairman (first part-time and then full-time) of the Advisory Council for the Research Councils (ABRC), the then intermediary body between government and the research councils set up to "advise the Secretary of State on the resource needs of the Research Councils, the Royal Society and the

Fellowship of Engineering". He also served as member on the Advisory Council for Science and Technology (Acost) and other advisory councils. His skills in committee were characterised by honesty, considerable oratory and a gift for friendships. He made a special plea for openness in the decision-making



His time at ABRC was not without controversy. On the one hand he needed to satisfy the increasing demands for funding from scientists faced with the continuing growth of scientific opportunities, the increasing need for more and more complex apparatus and facilities (often achievable only through international collaboration); the growing importance of interdisciplinary science, and the need for a variety of different organisations within which research can be conducted

most effectively. On the other hand, he fought to persuade government to deliver more money but recognising the necessarily limited resources and pressures for concentration. He won the respect of both sides, emphasising that only the best science should be funded, although some of his views on choices, selectivity and priorities, were not generally accepted.

As recounted to Max Blythe at the Oxford Centre for Twentieth Century Medical Biography, Phillips was once reprimanded for making a public statement concerning his view of the poor treatment of the science budget in the annual government statement on Public Expenditure. The Secretary of State conceded in private that the qualities required in a person in the advisory role on visionary uses of science resources would probably not be compatible with a person who would be willing to be snaffled and

they came to a good understanding. The next year the Public Expenditure statement produced a much better settlement for science that recognised the need for a rising profile over future years.

David Phillips was knighted in 1989 and appointed to a life peerage as Baron Phillips of Ellesmere in 1994. His retirement from Oxford in 1989 led to a move back to London and further involvement in science and Westminster. He joined the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology and became its chairman in 1907, contributing especially to a study of the information society and the needs of the UK and initiating important reviews, such as the Report on Resistance to Antibiotics chaired by Lord Soulsby.

In the last years of his life he was ill with cancer but took a keen scientific interest in the treatment that held the disease at pay for a con-siderable time. Before he died, he completed the final draft of a manuscript on how the lysozyme molecule was solved. It is a fitting tribute, assembled with historical accuracy and vision and containing much that is instructive to modern-day protein crystallographers.

He married Diana Hutchinson in 1960 and they had one daughter, Sarah. His two grandchildren gave him enormous pleasure in his later years. He once listed among his interests "talking to children". He

had a simplicity and directness that

was equally effective with children

and with the most august members of his committees. L. N. JOHNSON

Odd though it may sound, many scientists profess themselves to be in awe of their encounters with politicians, writes Tam Dalyell. In the case of David Phillips, it was the other way round. Politicians found him formidable.

I was not alone in being just a little frightened; more than one Conservative minister confided to me, "I read my brief three times before Phillips enters my office and my normally placid civil servants are on tenterhooks." The less-thaninformed opinion would be punished by that direct, glacial interrogative stare. Phillips was master Dovid Chilton Phillips, biophysiof the stony short silence extracting a faltering answer

Over my 33 years as a New Scientist columnist on Westminster/ Whitehall politics and policies relating to science and technology, Phillips was the most effective of all operators, in that world where science meets politics - clearer than Zuckerman, with fewer reservations about what he wanted done than Dainton. He displayed a certain somewhat mechant pleasure in presenting unpalatable sights and awkward views to politicians, spiced with

take it or leave it". As Sir David Phillips, former Bi-

ological Secretary of the Royal Society and chairman of the ABRC, he appeared before a range of Commons select committees and made it abundantly clear that he considered it his duty to bring MPs face to face with reality. Asked by the able and scientifically numerate Conservative MP Spencer Batiste about the interaction between a coordinating committee and the chairmanship of the Chief Scientific Adviser in relation to top levels of the office of Science and Technology, "Where would you plug into that process?", Phillips replied:

The high-level committee would be of independent outsiders representing the interests of the world "out there". I am eminded of the Bromley joke Washington being 100 square miles sur-rounded by reality. I think we have to remember that all of this is intended to serve reality out there. The top-level committee would have representatives of the public interest, if you like.

Or to Sir Trevor Skeet, veteran of innumerable scientific committees inquiring about the fast breeder reactor, somewhat tartly,

I would suppose that decisions have been taken as a result of discussions in what was the Department of Energy advised by Acord, their advisory committee. That is related to, I suppose, proposals within the Department of Trade and Industry which have now been and industry which have how been announced as government policy. As for Robin (Nicholson) saying that is a ques-tion that has been rumbling for quite a long time. I do not doubt the ramifica-tions of it will rumble even longer.

To get the full flavour of what Phillips meant, "I suppose" might mean "if only they knew clearly what they were talking about".

In his maiden speech in the House of Lords on 23 November 1994 we get an example of his brand of barbed humour.

My period as chairman of the Advisory Board for the Research Councils, which noble lords may remember was abol-ished at the end of last year, included many exciting developments in science and its application; but none more dramatic than the development of molecular biology and its application to medicine and to agriculture. Your lordships will remember, for example, the sheep named Tracy which was bred to produce in her milk the important antinow a senior member of a small flock of sheep, whose members produce, among other things, alpha antitrypsin, which has great promise in the treatment of emphysema. Those of your Lordships who may be concerned about shortness of breath will no doubt the a great of breath will no doubt take a great interest in that development.

Once a fortnight, the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee meets at 5.30pm in Westminster Hall for an hour and a half's lecture and questions. This is followed by a working dinner in a Commons dining room to which the two speakers and a score of peers, MPs, and scientists are invited. Phillips was a frequent invitee. His post-prandial contributions were elegantly incisive, cunningly provocative, often aggressive and always, always pertinent. David Phillips was one of nature's shakers.

cist: born Ellesmere, Shropshire 7 March 1924; Research Worker, Royal Institution of Great Britain 1956-66, Fullerian Professor of Physiology 1979-85; Professor of Molecular Biophysics, Oxford University 1966-90 (Emeritus); Fellow, Corpus Christi College, Oxford 1966-90; FRS 1967; Vice-President, Royal Society 1972-73, 1976-83, Biological Secretary 1976-83; Kt 1979; Chairman, Advisory Board of the Research Councils 1983-93; KBE 1989; created 1994 Baron Phillips of Ellesmere; married 1960 Diana Hutchinson (one daughter); died London 22 February 1999.

## Geoffrey Ward

GEOFFREY WARD transformed the interest from passers-by. Within a humble domestic radiator from its utilitarian origins into a designer object. Today his creations heat Stansted Airport, Glyndebourne opera house, and some of the nation's most fashionable bathrooms, living rooms and cloakrooms.

He elevated a bland heating device into an art form, an aesthetically pleasing vehicle for warming both body and soul: "Beautiful radiators are not a passing trend," he said. "People are conscious of how a thoughtful, stylish design can enhance their living and working

Curved radiators, cactus-shaped radiators, radiators designed like abstract modern art - Ward, through his company Bisque Radiators, designed them all. At the top of the Bisque range is the X-tream, a series of sweeping pipes in the shape of an X, that retails at more than £2,000.

It was while on a cycling holiday from Bordeaux to Biarritz in France some 18 years ago that Ward sturnbled across his idea to revolutionise the nation's domestic central heating arrangements. He spotted and

purchased a towel radiator. Returning to London with the new gadget. Ward displayed it in the window of his bathroom shop in Kilburn, where it attracted growing Switzerland where Ward found he

year the demand was so great that Ward revamped his shop, throwing out his bathroom suites and finding manufacturers who would interpret his up-to-the-minute radiator designs.

It was a bold decision. Few were prepared to take this upstart plumber and his "heating art" seriously. Being "Mr Radiator" was not the coolest sobriquet in town, as he once explained: "I tried to borrow a small amount of money from the bank at the time and they just laughed at me and said go away." Other problems surfaced: an attempt to open a "central heating outlet" in the centre of Bath met with objections. while many die-hard traditionalist plumbers informed home owners that the new-look products couldn't be connected into their pipes.

Before long the bank realised the error of its ways: "Within six months they were asking, 'How much do you want?" Similarly, the residents of Bath, duly placated by the "designer concept", were won over, and gradually members of the plumbing trade accepted the move forward. Finding suppliers who met his high standards was not easy either, and even today much of Bisque Radiators' Stock comes from

I still see so many expensive interiors with a boring radiator in them. People just don't know that they can have something better'

could rely on an outstanding level

His efforts were recognised when on 2 April last year the Prime Minister. Tony Blair, announced that Bisque Radiators' Hot Springs range had been selected by the Design Council as a contender to be displayed in the Millennium Dome at Greenwich.

Geoffrey Ward was born in 1944, the son of a one-time head keeper of London Zoo. He studied at Haverstock Comprehensive School and took a City & Guilds in plumbing at Hackney Technology College. With a pair of friends, he established Bisque Solar Installations Ltd and

secured a contract to instal solar panels in the newly emerging city of Milton Keynes. Ward said: "I spent 10 years building up the business, moving from replacing tap washers to installing bathrooms and central heating systems. We eventually employed about eight plumbers and carried out contracts for house builders. housing associations and local au-thorities. All through those years I heard that one continuous cry. 'Aren't there any nice radiators?' "

The first turning point for Bisque - named after the ceramic term for naturally sun-fired - came with a visit to their premises in Belsize Road by an officer from Camden Council: "He pointed out that we should not be using designated retail space for offices. So we hived off part of the front downstairs, stuck a couple of bathroom suites in it and pretended it was a bath-

room showroom." It was into this window that Ward, his company now called Bisque Radiators Ltd. placed his French towel rail. Meanwhile, he kept what one reporter described as a "Battersea Radiators Home" upstairs where slightly damaged radiators were stored and rented by film companies wanting something a little

different on their sets. Designers and developers began

flocking to his door as people began spending more money on a radiator than on a complete bathroom suite. Ward explained: "A few retailers are turning over £20,000 to £30,000 just on our radiators."

Journeying to inspect a possible

West Country site in Bristol, Ward fell in love with Bath and in 1986 acquired premises in the city centre, to where he soon moved Bisque's head office. The topography of the area proved ideal for his regular cycling trips, although he frequently journeyed much further on his two wheels. In 1995, he met his partner Hazel Pennington on a bike tour from Prague to Venice.

With damp towels and wet coats consigned to the history books, Ward could only look forward, yet he remained frustrated by the attitude of many to such an essential part of their domestic furniture: "I still see so many expensive interiors with a boring radiator in them. People just don't know that they can have something better."

TIM BULLAMORE

Geoffrey Ward, plumber and radiator designer: born London 12 April 1944; married 1965 Ivorene Davies (one son; marriage dissolved 1984); died Bristol 19 February 1999.



Ward's Hot Springs radiators have been selected by the Design Council as contenders for display at the Millennium Dome

HIRTIMAN

Cont of Littleman .

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## Derek Nimmo

PLAYING THE clerical buffoon, poking gentle fun at the Church on television n the Sixties, made Derek Nimmo a nousehold name. During his smallscreen heyday and beyond, Nimmo also enjoyed a long and successful career in London stage comedies and was something of a modern-day Raiph Lynn, the monocled farceur with the idiot grin who in feature films and Aldwych Theatre productions of the Twenties and Thirties brought laughs to adoring audiences with his portrayals of bungling bachelors.

Nimmo's trademark was his plummy voice with the hint of a stammer and a repertoire of amiable idiots which brought him a string of starring roles in television situation comedies. A devout Anglican, he admitted to being typecast and described his own personality as "twittish".

He was at his most successful as clerical clots such as the chaplain of the hallowed cathedral St Ogg's in the longrunning All Gos and Gaiters and the novice monk testing the patience of the kindly old Prior to the limits in Oh Brother! "The Church has an in-built advantage for comedy," said Nimmo in the Swinging Sixties: •

In this permissive world of ours, it is one of the few institutions which has rules by which it tries to live. It is the breaking down which it tries to live. It is the breaking down of those rules that makes it funny. In a way, All Gos and Gotters and Oh Brother! are a great compliment to the religions depicted. The characters in them try to keep the rules, even though they fail. But the rules are there in the first place.

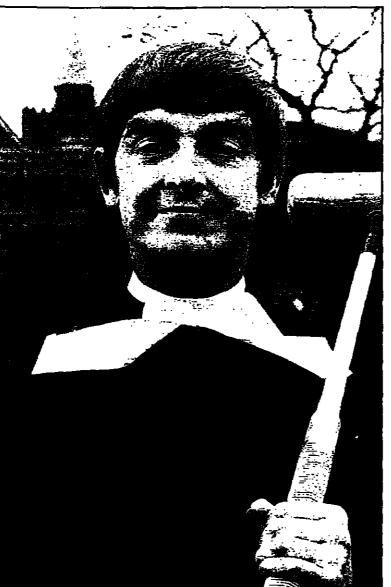
When television had exhausted Nimmo's stock-in-trade of "silly asses", he not only continued his stage career but showed entrepreneurial initiative by launching a business that took productions featuring British stars on tours abroad. As a result, be never experienced the rough patches that most actors go through after fading from the public eye.

It was an insurance policy that paid dividends for the Liverpool-born actor who on leaving school had followed his father into the insurance business. "You just have to prove yourself to your father" he said later. "So I went into his business and passed all my exams. Then I was free to be myself." As a result, after doing National Service in Intelligence in Cyprus, he worked as a salesman for a paint company at £12 a week.

While running a Saturday-night dance in a disused church hall in Penny Lane in Liverpool, Nimmo met his wife-to-be. Patricia Brown, when she tried to sell him tickets for an amateur play. "We had our first date in the shelter mentioned in the song," recalled Nimmo, who was educated at the Quarry School, later attended by the Beates John Lennon and Paul McCartney. matics and, in 1952, he left his day job and turned professional as an actor, making his début as Ensign Blades in Quality Street at the Hippodrome, Bolton, for just £4 a week.

Work in repertory theatre followed. with companies in Nottingham, Oldham, Worcester, Clacton-on-Sea, Rotherham and New Brighton. On moving to London. Nimmo filled the time between occasional acting jobs by working at the Grade Organisation as assistant to Lew Grade - then simply a show-business agent - becoming road manager for the American singer Al Martino and working as a publicist for pop groups and pantomime producers. He also formed an agency that ran jazz concerts across the country, performed in a rollerskating act with his wife and worked with the ventriloquist Peter Brough (of Educating Archie) and as straight man to the comedian Arthur Haynes. During this time Nimmo, his wife and their first child, Timothy, lived and moved around

in a caravan pulled by an old Buick. Stage success finally came when Nimmo made his West End debut by taking over the role of Gaston in Waltz of the Torendors, at the Criterion Theatre in 1957. This began a long run on the London stage, including appearances in Duel of Angels (Apollo, 1958), How Say You? (Aldwych, 1959), The Amorous Proum (Saville, 1959), The Irregular Verb to Love (Criterion, 1961), See How



Nimmo in All Gas and Gaiters, as the Rev Mervyn Noote

They Run (Vaudeville, 1964, and Shaftesbury, 1984), Charlie Girl (Adelphi, 1965-71, for its entire run of more than 2,000 performances), Babes in the Wood (Palladium, 1972), Why Not Stoy for Breakfast? (Apollo, 1973-55), Same Time, Next Year (Prince of Wales, 1978), A Friend Indeed (Shaftesbury, 1984) and The Cabinet Minister (Albery, 1991-92).

His potential for buffoonery was spotted early and he would have been a natural for the Aldwych farces of several decades earlier and the spin-off films made by Raiph Lynn and others. Although Nimmo acted in more than 20 pictures, most notably The Amorous Proson (1962, based on the stage farce), Above! (1963, made by the Boulting Brothers), Richard Lester's Beatles film A Hard Day's Night (1964) and the James Bond spoof Casino Royale (1967),

sented in the BBC's "Comedy Play-house" slot. It was so popular that the writers, Edwin Apps and Pauline Devaney, turned it into All Gas and Gaiters (1967, 1969-71), which ran for five series. It was the first time that television situation comedy had taken a swipe at the clergy, albeit gently. As well as Mervyn and Nimmo, this comedy-in-thecloisters featured Robertson Hare, and Ernest Clark as the Dean, who regularly crossed swords with the trio.

At the same time, Nimmo enjoyed starring in other situation comedies, beginning as the doddery but cunning earl's son Frederick in Blandings Castie (1967). Billed under "The World of London-based Theatre of Comedy. six-part adaptation of P.G. Wodehouse's stories about Clarence, ninth Earl of Emsworth, starred Ralph Richardson. Nimmo's character from The Bed-Sit

All Gas and Gaiters was the first television sitcom to take a swipe – albeit a gentle one – at the clergy. In a way, it's a compliment,' said Nimmo

times had changed and his talents were never appreciated on the big screen. Instead, television provided a home

for his style of comedy. Nimmo played the single girl Sheila Hancock's new neighbour and boyfriend, David, in the second series of writing team Ronald Wolfe and Ronald Chesney's The Bed-Sit Girl (1966) and, perhaps more appropriately, acted the "silly ass" Bingo Little in the second series of The World of Wooster (1966), based on P.G. Wodehouse's classic stories and starring Ian Carmichael and Dennis Price as

Wooster and his manservant, Jeeves. In the same year, Nimmo landed the role of the Rev Mervyn Noote, the humbling chaplain to the Bishop (played by William Mervyn) at St Ogg's Cathedral, in The Bishop Rides Again, preGirl was revived by Ronald Wolfe and Ronald Chesney as the eternal student David in Sorry I'm Single (1967), set in flats in a converted house in Hampstead also occupied by three women on the lookout for a husband.

However, these programmes never achieved the same success as All Gos and Gaiters, which made a star of Nimmo and resulted in the remarkable phenomenon of a completely new comedy-of-the-clergy being written specially for him while the original was still being screened. David Climie and Austin Steele created the role of an accident-prone novice monk in Oh Brother! (1968-70), which ran for three series. with Nimmo's character. Brother Dominic, making life at Mountacres Monastery difficult for the Prior, Father

(Colin Gordon). In a sequel, Oh Father. (1973), Nimmo was ordained Father Dominic and left the monastery to become curate to Father Harris (played by another long-time film star, Laurence Naismith). His popularity had won him the Royal Television Society's Silver Medal in 1970 and the Variety Club of Great Britain's Showbusiness Personality of the Year award the following year As if he were not seen enough on tele-

Anselm (the veteran actor Felix

Aylmer), and the Master of the Novices

vision, Nimmo was given his own interview series, If It's Saturday, It Must Be Nimmo and Just a Nimmo, and more situation comedies followed. Leaving men of the cloth behind, he played Henry Prendergast, husband of the newly elected MP Jane (Pauline Yates), in My Honouroble Mrs (1975), dallying with other women while his wife attended to her parliamentary duties.

Then he teamed up with Rosemary Leach as the middle-class couple Chris and Katy Bunting who face up to parenthood at the age of 40, in two series of Jan Butlin's Life Begins at Forty (1978, 1980). Butlin then created another comedy, Third Time Lucky (1982), for Nimmo, in which he and Nerys Hughes acted George and Beth Hutchenson. who had divorced one another and their subsequent respective partners, and were now planning to marry each other again.

Nimmo returned to type when But-lin wrote the situation comedy Hell's Bells (1986), casting him as Dean Selwyn Makepeace of Norchester Cathedral, whose quiet life with his irritable sister Edith (Phyllida Law) and fiancee Maudie Mountjoy (Penelope Horner) is disrupted by the arrival of a new bishop, Godfrey Hethercote (Robert Stephens). and his wife Emma (Susan Jameson), who are determined to create closer relations with their errant congregation.

After an impressive run of 20 years, Nimmo was rarely seen on television again but continued to work in the theatre. As well as appearing on the London stage, he was closely involved in running Intercontinental Entertainment, the company he had formed in 1976 to take British stage productions such as See How They Run on tour abroad, featuring such stars as David Jason, Leslie Phillips, Dora Bryan, Alfred Marks, Jimmy Jewel, Peggy Mount, Michael Denison, Dulcie Gray and Googie Withers. These shows have been een in about 30 countries, mostly in Africa, Australia, America and the Middle and Far East. Such behind-thescenes work also led Nimmo to become a founder-member and director of the

sion in the role of Lord Ledgerwood in the Australian serial Neighbours, seen meeting Madge and Harold Bishop when they visited Britain in 1991, and later guest-starred in an episode of The Good Guys (1993), starring Nigel Havers and Keith Barron. As well as acting briefly on BBC radio

in the legendary serial The Dales, since 1968 Nimmo was a regular panellist in the long-running Just a Minute. A popular after-dinner speaker, he also wrote many books, including Derek Nimmo's Drinking Companion (1979), Shaken and Stirred (1984), Oh, Come On All Ye Foithful: a humorous church collection (1986), Not in Front of the Servants (1987), Up Mount Everest Without a Paddle (1988), As the Actress Said to the Bishop (1989), Wonderful Window Boxes (1990), Table Talk (1990) and Memorable Dinners (1991).

He was an enthusiastic collector of paintings, Derby porcelain and English 17th- and 18th-century walnut furniture and, as a connoisseur of food and drink, became a member of the Académie Culinaire of France and the Wine Guild of Great Britain.

ANTHONY HAYWARD

Derek Robert Nimmo, actor, producer and author: born Liverpool 19 September 1930; married 1955 Patricia Brown (two sons, one daughter); died London 24 February 1999.



TRAVEL NOTES

## Travelling as a version of being at home

SINCE THE Second World War, cultural commentators of all sorts have lamented what Levi-Strauss famously termed "an end to journeying". It is not that people don't travel any more. Rather, the elegiasts argue, travel as a significant transformative experience is no longer possible. The problem with modern or mass tourism is its tendency to what Max Weber called "rationalisation". George Ritzer, a modern Weberian, defines this as the increasing effort to ensure predictability from one time or place to another. In a rational society people prefer to know what to expect in all settings and at all times.

Ritzer renames the phenomenon "the McDonaldisation of society". What McDonald's have done to the global food industry has become a model for many different kinds of organisation.

When considered in relation to tourism, "McDonaldisation" results in what Paul Theroux calls "Travelling as a Version of Being at Home":

Spain is Home-plus-Sunshine; India is Home-plus-Servants; Africa is Home-plus-Elephants-and-Lions; Ecuador is Home-Tourism of this sort is precisely an avoidance of the

rience that Theroux feels travel ought to achieve. Whereas travellers explore the wonders of the

disruptive, revelatory expeworld, tourists go to desig-

Paul Fussell terms "pseudo- Total Recall, set in the year places". The classic examples are American - the Disneylands, destinations designed to fascinate and repulse cultured Europeans such as Jean Baudrillard and Umberto Eco, But places like these exist wherever the

travel industry operates. Many contemporary tourist attractions, moreover are no longer located in a particular place. As the humorist P.J. O'Rourke notes, previous tourist generations could constitute "a stately procession of like-minded individuals through half a dozen of the world's major principalities". Today, on the other hand.

tourist attractions have no spe-cific location but pop up every-where - that villainous cab driver with the all-consonant last name, for instance. He's waiting outside hotels from Sun City to the Seward Peninsula.

To paraphrase the title of the Sixties film satire, the only way we can tell we're in Belgium is by knowing that this Tuesday. Complementing the desire

to travel but feel "at home" is the desire to stay at home but experience "different" cultures vicariously through our reading, television viewing or Internet surfing, "For most people," says a character in Don DeLillo's novel White Noise, "there are only two places in the world. Where they live and their TV set." The apotheosis of such armchair travel takes place in 2084 when Mars has become a colony of the earth. Doug Quaid, a construction worker, has no time to visit the colony so he goes to Rekall, a "travel" service which say cialises in implanting artificial memories of "vacations" into its customers' brains.

Travel without having to leave your desk is also a pouular metaphor in the language of computing. Microsoft advertisements ask, "Where would you like to go today? and suggest that their software has created the kind of global village Marshall Mc-Luhan imagined television would. Using the Internet is described in spatial metaphors such as the "World Wide Web", "Cyberspace" or "Netscape Navigator".

According to the novelist William Gibson, cyberspace is 'a consensual hallucination experienced daily by billions of legitimate operators, in every nation". As we become its citizens, he suggests, our national affiliations become less important and physical travel redundant. The only frontiers existing in this brave new world are economic and technical. "Travellers" are those who can afford the requisite gadgets and know how to use them.

Kasia Boddy is a contributor to 'Voyages and Visions: iowards a cultural history of travel' edited by Jas Elsner and Joan-Pau Rubies nated sites - including what Paul Verhoeven's 1990 film (Reaktion Books, £16.95)

## Professional judge's duty to give reasons

THE COURT of Appeal gave guidance on the general duty of a professional judge to give reasons for his decision.

The appeal of the plaintiffs against the decision of a county court judge dismissing their claim for professional negligence against the defendants was alowed by the Court of Appeal,

and a new trial was ordered. The plaintiffs bought a flat with the benefit of a mortgage. and the defendants were asked by the building society to carry out a valuation. Their valuation report, prepared by a Mr Haining, stated in relation to "heave, landslip or settlement" that "no undue hazards were apparent

at the time of inspection". The plaintiffs subsequently put their flat on the market and received an offer. The prospective purchaser's building society, by coincidence, also asked the defendants to carry out a survey of the property. That survey was conducted by a different surveyor, Mr Earley, who reported that the property was affected by structural movement. The purchaser withdrew, and the plaintiffs sued the defendants for professional negligence in relation to the

original valuation. At the trial, the central issue was factual, i.e. whether or not the property was suffering from foundation subsidence at the time of the original survey. The plaintiffs called an expert valuer and an expert engineer, but Mr Earley did not give evidence. The defendants called Mr Haining, and an expert valuer and an expert engineer. The judge gave a reserved judgment in which he found for the defendants, saying that he preferred their expert evidence to sons concentrated the mind: if

FRIDAY LAW REPORT

**26 FEBRUARY 1999** 

Flannery and another v Halifax Estate Agencies Ltd

Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Henry, Lord Justice Laws and Mr Justice Hidden) 18 February 1999

that of the plaintiffs, but giving no reasons for that preference. The plaintiffs appealed, on the ground that the judge had failed to give reasons for his decision. Paul Darling (Pannone & Partners) for the plaintiffs; Graeme McPherson (Wragge Co) for the defendants.

Lord Justice Henry said that the general duty of a professional judge to give reasons was clear: see R v Knightsbridge Crown Court, ex p International Sporting Club [1982] QB 304.

The duty to give reasons was a function of due process, and therefore of justice. Fairness required that the parties, especially the losing party, should be left in no doubt why they had won or lost, otherwise the losing party would not know whether the court had misdirected itself, and thus whether he might have an appeal available on the substance of the case. A want of reasons might, therefore, be a good selfstanding ground of appeal. Further, a requirement to give reait were fulfilled, the resulting decision was much more like ly to be soundly based on the evidence than if it were not.

What was required to fulfil the duty depended upon the subject matter. Where there was a straightforward factual dispute depending simply upon the truthfulness of the witnesses it was likely to be enough for the judge to indicate that he believed one rather than the other, indeed there might be nothing else to say. .

Where, however, the dispute involved something in the nature of an intellectual exchange with reasons and analysis advanced on either side, the judge bad to enter into the issues canvassed before him and explain why he preferred one case over the other. That was likely to apply particularly in litigation where there was disputed expert evidence, but it was not necessarily limited to such cases.

The rule, however, was the same in both types of case: the judge had to explain why he had reached his decision. What was required of the judge in order to do that would differ from case to case. Transparency should be the watchword.

In accordance with the new Practice Direction on leave to appeal, leave should be sought from the trial judge immediately after judgment was delivered. On the application for leave, if a "no reasons" point were being taken, the judge should be invited to give his reasons, and his explanation for not having set them out in the judgment, in an affidavit for use at the hearing if leave

> KATE O'HANLON, Barrister

## & DEATHS BIRTHS

BIRTHS,

**MARRIAGES** 

ROBINS: On 12 February at St Richards, Chichester, to Susan (nee Rountree) and David, a son, Nicholas James Alexander a brother for Charlotte.

**DEATHS** 

NUTTING: On 24 February 1999, the Right Hon Sir Anthony, Bi PC. Deeply loved and greatly missed by his family. Family and friends welcome at the funeral to be held at 3pm on Thursday 4 March at Holy Trinity Brompton. All enquiries to Leverton & Sons Ltd 0171-387 6075.

CHARGES are £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### BIRTHDAYS Lord Bridge of Harwich, a

former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 82; Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, solicitor, 85; Mr Johnny Cash, singer, 67; Sir Peter Cazalet, deputy chairman, GKN, 70; Dr Lynda Ciark MP, 50; Mr Antoine "Fats" Domino, singer, 71; Mr David Edgar. playwright, 51; Sir Donald Farquharson, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 71; Mr Michael Foster MP, 53; Dr Basil Greenhill, nautical writer, 79; Miss Emma Kirkby, soprano, 50; Professor Noreen Murray, Professor of Molecular Genetics, Edinburgh University, 64; Sir Michael Perry, former chairman of Unilever, 65; Miss Sandie Shaw, singer, 52; Mr Everton Weekes,

cricketer, 74.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**GAZETTE** 

Births: Victor-Marie Hugo, writer, 1802; William Frederick Cody ("Buffalo Bill"), showman, 1846. Deaths: Caran d'Ache (Emmanuel Poiré), illustrator, 1909; Sir Harry Lauder (MacLennan). comedian, 1950. On this day: the Bank of England issued the first one-pound note, 1797; the Grand National steeplechase was first run, Aintree, 1839. Today is the Feast Day of St Alexander of Alexandria, St Nestor of Magydus, St Porphyry of Gaza and St Victor or Vittre the Hermit.

# University, Cambridge: Dr Sue Sadler, "Daily Life Dur-ing the Civil War", 6.30pm.

SYNAGOGUE **SERVICES** Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 5.20pm. United Synagogues: 0181-343
3989. Pederation of Synagogues:
0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal
and Progressive Synagogues:
0171-580 1663. Reform Synagogues of Great Britain: 0181349 4731. Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Syn-agogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1028. Collins, "The Rise of Civilisa-

National Gallery: Richard

Stemp, "February Fables

Death of Eurydice\*, 1pm.

Anglia Polytechnic

(iv): Niccolò dell'Abate, The

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen visits St Martin-In-the Fields High School, London SW2. The Duke of Edinburgh visits the offices of the Leicester the offices of the Leicester Mercury newspaper, Leicester University, Leicester Grammar School, Everands Brewery and Checkland Kindleysides' offices, Leicestershire. The Prince of Wales opens the 21st Operation Bumblebee Stolen Property and Crime Prevention Boadshow in conjunction with the Metropolitat Police Service at the Banqueting Police Service at the Band some service at the Banqueting Suite, Wembley Stadium, Middle-sez. The Duke of York attends a Dining In Night at the Officers' Mess, RAF Northolt.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; Mijmegen Company Grenadier Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Coldstream Guards.

#### THE DIVERSIONS prompted by Francis Wheen and Julian Barnes's commentary upon the John Walsh/ Steve Martin "irk" controversy have delayed mention of Martin's casual remark that "in every industry, there's a swaff of people who you would call 'well-read' . . . and there's

## WORDS

**CHRISTOPHER** HAWTREE swaff, n.

aren't." One boggles that LA should echo to a word last used in 1688. It is a variant of swathe, the mass of people who itself a word whose Old

means both a section of mown grass and a wrapping-up in cloth. It could make for a disquisition similar to those in Martin's Picasso play - scandalously overlooked by London, as are the equally witty conceits which animate the work of David Ives.

English origins do not fully

explain the way in which it

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

**LECTURES** 

British Museum: Paul

tion", 11,30am.

# God. But not as you know Him

God has no future, not if we have to believe in the Christian idea of a Big, Holy Bloke. So claims an ex-nun. By Paul Vallely

giggling on a girls' day out they were reading their horoscopes aloud astro-logical platitudes with saucy shrieks.

Across the compartment a besuited businessman was reading from a Bible study guide entitled God and Money. and cross-referring to passages in the New Testament. In the seat next to me, a serious young woman was engrossed in a chapter called "Why some prayers go unanswered" in a Scripture Union paperback entitled Are you ready for God?

This is supposed to be a secular age. Yet since God was pronounced dead by Nietzsche over a century ago, he has rather stubbornly refused to lie down, as was evidenced by the people I encountered on the journey to meet Karen Armstrong who tomorrow will address the Society for Analytical Psychology on the subject of The Future of God.

But which of the three Gods who sat by me on the train is the one with the future? Is it the God in the Sky: the controller of fate; the arbiter between free will and predestination, whose inclinations can be predicted by those who claim the ability to read the stars? Or is it God the Lawgiver, the carver of commandments and establisher of business ethics? Or is it God the Listener, the object of supplication and (occasional) answerer of prayers?

There is a massive paradox at the heart of the contemporary concept of God. For most of us have ceased to believe in Him - and yet we remain very fixed in our notions of Who it is in Whom we no longer believe. We have put behind us the idea of God the Big Bloke.

Karen Armstrong ceased to believe in Him, too. When she left her convent, after six years with the Society of the Holy Child Jesus, she declared herself an atheist and created a blaze of publicity with two autobiographical critiques on the shortcomings of the religious life. But that was 20 years ago. In researching another book, The History of God - which came out recently in paperback after six years as an international hardback bestseller - she has changed her mind. God does have a future, she has decided. Only not as a Him, but as

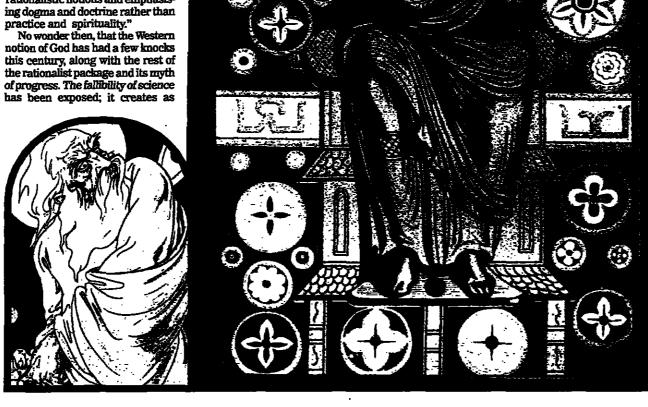
"Most people are stuck with an infantile view of God - whether it is one which they embrace or reject," she said when we met for hunch this week. I mention the hunch because it became the source of her metaphors. "The idea is of God as First

ehind me on the train like us, only bigger," she said. "The top sat a group of women in man. But whose behaviour we can predict. their fifties, raucous and whose questions we can second-guess. whom we can imagine in our own image, but from time-to-time popping in, acting in the world, doing the odd miracle." and punctuating the Like a Cosmic Waiter, I said, as the fish arrived. Exactly.

It is a vision which grows out of the scientific literalism that rules modern thinking, "In it, the rational is valued more than the intuitive, and everything is viewed literally rather than metaphorically or mystically. Because we can prove that the atom exists, or Australia, even though we can't see them, we think the same must be true of God. So we have set about dealing with God in modes which are utterly inappropriate."

Her conclusions come from a comparative study of the origins of Christianity, Islam and Judaism. A God rooted in philosophy was something which the Jews and Muslims attempted to locate, too. But they gave up the attempt in the Middle Ages and went mystical. The East-ern Orthodox never bothered with the attempt; they instinctively knew it was a blind alley. "But the Western world went off at a tangent from the other traditions, developing rationalistic notions and emphasising dogma and doctrine rather than

notion of God has had a few knocks this century, along with the rest of the rationalist package and its myth of progress. The fallibility of science has been exposed; it creates as



as it solves. The idea that education would bring an end to superstition and cruelty has proved false. This was the century of the Holocaust in which a cultivated nation, with the aid of new technologies - such as the railway and the factory chimney - created horror on a scale previously unknown to human history.

"The idea of the omnipotent, benevolent God, the God of history, died for ever in Auschwitz," said Karen Armstrong. "And yet Auschwitz was the place where the Jews – having put God in the dock and found him guilty - ended the trial with a prayer

She picked up her fork. "It's like this fork," she said. "It is a great implement - but it is useless for eating soup. So science and rationalism and philosophy have proved as use-less for helping us relate to God who is not apart from us, but within. We've got into the habit of endlessly trying to define God. But God is an experience like music or art: something which lifts us momentarily beyond ourselves; which fills us with both confidence and a sense of the mysterious.".

This urge to access the deeper levels of reality has not disappeared in modern women and men. It is there in psychotherapy which she describes as "like a religion in its descent into yourself with a guru". It is there in the thirst for things New Age, which she defends from the accusation of pick'n'mix spirituality. "What's wrong with that? Judaism borrowed from Zoroastrianism, Bud-dhism from Hinduism, Christianity

many moral and environmental dilemmas from Judaism, and Islam from both." The craving for purity in theology is a

modern compulsion. "The Western view of the divine is going to have to change. We have to learn from the Buddhist reticence about the unknown, from the Jews who won't utter the name of God, and from Muslims who refuse to depict God in art. It's blasphemous to think that God reveals itself in only one tradition."

Even atheism has a lot to teach Western Christians. "Atheism is not a blanket denial of the sacred, but of a particular conception of the sacred," she said, reaching after another culinary comparison. "It's like a sorbet," she said. "Atheism is the sorbet people need to cleanse their minds of the bad theology which surrounds the Big Bloke God. Historically, atheism is a phenomenon of transition: Judaism, Christianity and Islam were all described as atheistic by their contemporaries in their infancy."

Above all, what we must be rid of is relying on words. All talk of God must create paradox and must lead to silence, she said. "Prayer has become talking to yourself and hoping, incidentally, that God is listening." But instead of asking God the Holy Bloke to change the world to suit us, prayer should be about trying to attune ourselves to the reality of the It which is God. "We have to wait and listen, instead of which we shun silence. We should act like those Bedouin who believe that you learn an attitude of prayer through the position of your body. The practice comes before the dogma."

But where does that leave the divine morality of God the Lawgiver? "If only we could stop worrying whether there's a God and just practice compassion," she sighed. \*Compassion is what displaces you from the centre of the universe and yields up a sense of the divine. The sense of me, me, me - and 'am I having a religious experience?' is what is wrong with much contemporary spirituality. It doesn't matter what I'm feeling. What matters is that it must issue in compassion."

Rabbi Hillel, an older contemporary of Jesus, was once asked if he could give all the teachings of Judaism while standing on one leg. He replied: "Don't do to others what you do not want done to you. That is the whole of the Talmud. Now go and learn it." All true religions boil down to that. It is, of course, easier said than done.

Muslims call it coping with that "jihad" which means "constant struggle". God does have a future, insists Karen Armstrong, but no one said it was going to be an easy one.

Mary Evans Picture Library

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★ Today we are featuring great offers on a range of classic BBC comedy available on video. You can take advantage of purchasing any one of the videos listed below for the special price of only £7.99, any two for £13.99 or indeed 3 for £17.99 - all inclusive of postage and packing!

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# Yer man with the twinkling feet is no sissy, to be sure

SUDDENLY IN the Nineties it became chic to be Irish, Not real Irish but fake, cuddly Irish. Now pubs are painted yellow and re-opened as "O'Doherty's", with a burling-stick in the window, so you expect to find potatoes around the floor and a Blarney stone by the fruit machine. And adverts for English/Irish beer give the impression that if you sit in any bar in Dublin, within minutes a horse will gallop past the window. There's the cuddly Corrs, with their soap-advert complexions and Smarties-advert songs. And Dublin is a favourite destination for posh stag nights. Businessmen probably open their board meetings now by saying "The last fiscal period here at GPC Holdings, has been excellent craic. Now yer man will report on sales in the Midlands area, so he will."

But nothing has been as fake cuddly Irish as the appalling Riverdance. So I was delighted to learn that the class I'd arrived at was adamant it practised set-dancing, distinct from Riverdance dancing. The Michael Flatley stuff, they told me, has its origins in the Catholic Church, who insisted that dancers' hands should remain still and straight. Otherwise they might wander into forbidden areas, and before you know it, there's another soul destined for an

eternity of boiling lava. God must shake his head in disbelief at the Catholic Church, thinking: "You idiots. That's what I gave you those bits FOR." Though hands-by-your-side was probably a compromise. I expect the priests' original plan was for your partner to be in a separate room, while you were

handcuffed to a piano. I was also surprised that half of the class was Irish, the teacher especially so. He was at his most Irish as he announced each dance. "This is a round-the-house-home-topsexchange-partner-twirl-half-house side-step-reverse-half-home", he'd recite. All at breakneck speed in a rural Irish accent, sounding like that brilliant bloke they used to have on C4, commentating on horse-racing.

Halfway through the instructions, as the words blurred into one. I wondered whether he'd mixed them up with something from the Olympics, and would finish with "back-flip-semitwist-two-kilometre-coxless pairs".

MARK STEEL



LOCATION

I got in position, the tape of violins and whistles began, and there was a terrifying 20-second pause where you just bob up and down, which must be similar to the moments before leaping from a plane on a parachute jump. "Just follow me," said my partner, but how can you follow someone when you're supposed to be doing it at the same time? So I went right instead of left, half-housed when it was tops-athome, kicked everyone's ankles, felt like a giggling idiot on The Generation Game and looked like Corporal Jones.

"It's simple," said Catherine. "It's just one-two-three." But one-twothree can be simple or difficult. depending on what you're doing. I bet the Pharaohs used to say "Just onetwo-three and there's your pyramid " But no matter how hopeless you

were, the set-dancing class would be wonderfully, generously patient. Folkdancing of any sort, it seems, makes no sense unless it's extremely amicable. Because it's hard to be resentful with a group who've all held hands in the middle, while galloping round in a star shape. Set-dancing is an Irish version of

the folk-dancing which developed in most Western rural communities, and depends on a collective effort. In a society which relies on a small number of people helping each other, it would make no sense for its weekly entertainment to involve everyone dancing separately. So it's completely unpretentious. Unlike disco or Riverdance dancing, there's nothing to be gained in trying to look flash, as it only works as a group effort. If someone did a breakdance spin on their head, they'd ruin the whole thing, as that bit was supposed to be a skip into the middle. It also means

that, even as a beginner, when you accidentally get something right you feel like yelling "yeehaaah".

Each of the dances is named after the area of Ireland it originated from; Connemara, Mayo, Sligo and so on. Which adds to the rural charm. especially when taking place above a pub in London. What would be the London equivalent? Maybe a fighting class, with a teacher announcing: "Today we're going to start with a Peckham," and the students sighing. "Ah, punch in the stomach, half-circle left, kick in the nuts, one-two-three".

Another major difference from disco dancing is, because it relies on remembering which bit comes next, it's impossible to do it drunk. At first I was a little dismayed when I offered to buy John a drink and he asked for a Lucozade. It puzzled me why I was the only one drinking Guinness - until we hurtled round during a Crossmaglen, in a high speed ring-a-ring-o'-roses that didn't contain the relief of falling down, and the Guinness swirled around inside me, only kept in by centrifugal force.

But English people of my generation do have one psychological hurdle to cross in order to appreciate this pastime; the memory of country dancing at school. At one point during the session, I suffered a traumatic flashback when there weren't enough dancers to complete the Donegal, so I ended up on my own without a partner. Suddenly all I could see was dozens of nine-year-olds in plimsolls chortling, while a teacher clapped her hands and bellowed "Come along girls, surely SOMEONE doesn't mind dancing with Mark". But the fears were unfounded. Partly because of its collective nature, and partly as a result of its origins, set-dancing attracts the most unpretentious,

charitable and affable of followers. So there was no need to worry about one of my mates seeing me through the window, and telling all the hard kids that Steely was a sissy. Especially as amongst the postwomen, office workers and teachers were several builders. I'll never feel quite the same again when I walk past a building-site, now I know that the hairy-armed hulk slinging bags of concrete down a ladder might, in a couple of hours, be going one-twothree hop, twirl, one-two-three skip.

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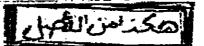
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# On a wing and an echo

Bats are furry flyers whose range-finding system puts laser-guided missiles to shame. But modern technology

is giving researchers new insights into the world of these marvellous mammals. By Simon Hadlington

or centuries they have been associated with the darker side of human imagination, from Count Dracula's alter ego to an essential ingredient in witches' diabolical potions. For scientists, however, bats represent one of nature's most astonishing creations, flying mammals whose remarkable sense of hearing enables them not only to navigate freely through dense woodland in pitch blackness, but to locate and intercept tiny airborne insects with a speed and accuracy that make modern laser-guided missiles seem primitive.

This pinpoint navigation is achieved by echolocation - similar to a highly sophisticated radar. And while many questions are still to be answered about the phenomenon, advances in information technology are giving researchers an unprecedented opportunity to gain fresh insights into this mysterious, ultrasonic world.

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One of the country's experts on bat echolocation is Dr Dean Waters of the University of Leeds. "Echolocation works like a sonar," he says. "The bat uses its larynx to generate an ultrasonic sound wave, which it emits through either its mouth or its nose. The sound wave travels through the air, bounces off an object, returns to the bat's ear and is processed by its brain."

Typically, bat calls are at a frequency of between 20 and 100 kilohertz, compared with 1kHz or so for the human voice. "The bat's hearing mechanisms are similar to ours, except that it hears frequencies that are more than 10 times higher, and it processes the echo information 10 times faster than we could." says Dr Waters.

The time it takes for the signal to return enables the bat to calculate the distance of the object, while the "shape" of the reflected sound wave provides information about the form of the object. For a typical bat, one echolocation call may last a thousandth of a second and be repeated 10 times each second.

Dr Waters is particularly interested in bats that emit "frequency modulated", or FM, calls. Some bats emit calls of constant frequency. whereas in FM calls there are a range of frequencies within the same call. The first portion of the call is usually at a high frequency - such as 100kHz - and goes down to a lower frequency maybe 20 or 40kHz.

Dr Waters wants to understand precisely how FM echolocators use the information that returns from a



Bats on the airwaves: fruit-bat, above: long-eared bat, inset above: chocolate wattled bat, inset below

fectively, it's

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tect the feeding areas

also. Clearly, because bats

are nocturnal, they can be dif-

ficult to survey. We're hoping

that our system will be able to

give us useful information

about which species feed in

helping us find out more about bat

echolocation, it may also be possi-

ble to integrate artificial echoloca-

tion into sophisticated computerised

devices to create new machines. Dr

Jones's team at Bristol has created

a prototype robotic device that can

distinguish simple shapes by echo-

location. "Essentially, we generate

a bat call digitally on the computer,

turn it into an analogue signal and

send it out through a pair of speak-

ers. The sound wave bounces off an

object and returns. The echo is re-

digitised and fed into a neural net-

work." The computer's neural

network was successfully "trained"

to distinguish between different-

shaped objects in various orient-

ations. Such a system could, for

example, be used on conveyor belts

to sort objects of different shapes.

been awarded a grant to try to de-

velop a virtual reality system in

which the user becomes immersed

in an acoustic world rather than a

visual one. This could bring the

concept of virtual reality within the

reach of people with impaired vision.

"Because there is little fundamen-

tal difference between ourselves

and bats in the way we process

acoustic information, if we slowed

everything down by a factor of 10 we

could potentially get as much in-

formation about our surroundings as

to be equipped with an "acoustic

torch". The torch would send out a

virtual sonar pulse, which would

reflect off objects in the surround-

ing environment and return via

the headphones. As with hats' echo-

location, the returning pulse

would convey information about

the distance of an object as well as

an important tool for education and

training, as well as entertainment."

says Dr Waters. "But because it is

designed for people with normal vis-

ion, those with visual disabilities are

effectively excluded. Hopefully,

this project will go some way to re-

"Virtual reality is being seen as

The idea is for the user to wear

bats can," he explains.

In Leeds, Dr Waters has just

Not only is modern technology

single call. "For many years the pre- with the lower-frequency part of the speakers more quickly than the oratory at the University of Bristol it builds up a kind of acoustic map of its environment, just as we get a visual map of our surroundings.
"I don't necessarily think this is

correct. Such computations would be complicated and timeconsuming, and in a lot of cases would not be necessary."

Dr Waters suspects that the different frequencies contained in a single FM echolocation call provide the bat with different types of information: the lower-frequency portion of the call tells the bat about the shape of the object. while the higher frequency gives much more precise information about its position.

When foraging, a bat may be echolocating at distances of tens of metres. Higher-frequency sound waves become degraded at these distances, while lower frequencies tend to remain intact. "It could be that the bat identifies potential prey

vailing school of thought has been the call. It then flies towards it, at that a bat uses its ears just as we use which point the higher-frequency our eyes. By processing the echoes portion of the echo becomes important in precisely locating the prey. I think this would be a more efficient strategy, and it also fits in better with the way the echo is degraded by the environment."

To test this hypothesis, Dr Waters is creating a unique, elaborate experiment using

some very sophisticated electronics, along with computer technology that enable a bat's returning echolocation calls to be manipulated by researchers.

The set-up consists of a Y-shaped wooden platform. A pipistrelle bat (donated by a local bat sanctuary that rescues orphaned and injured animals) is placed at the base of the Y, with a loudspeaker at the end of each prong of the fork.

As the bat echolocates, the outgoing signal is captured by a microphone and returned through one of natural echo. In this way the bat thinks that one of the speakers is closer than the other.

Dr Waters is training the bat to move towards the "phantom" speaker by rewarding it with morsels of food. Once the bat is trained to do this, the experiment proper can begin. "We can then manipulate the returning signal electronically," says Dr Waters. "We can effectively snip it up into different bits.

"If my hypothesis is correct, when I filter out the higher-frequency sounds and return only the lower frequencies, the bat's ability to discriminate range will decrease. It won't perceive the speaker as being closer. On the other hand, if I filter out the lower frequencies its range-finding ability should not be affected by it."

The success of the experiment hinges on the bat's ability to be trained. Fingers are crossed. Meanwhile, 200 miles away, researchers in Dr Gareth Jones's lab-

are developing new ways of capturing and analysing echolocation calls.

The aim is to use the information to improve our understanding of bat ecology. The team is building a neural network - a computer program that can be "trained" to recognise patterns - to try to speed up the process of identifying the "acoustic" a helmet and headphones, but also fingerprints" of the various species' echolocation calls

"We want to develop a system that can automatically record the call, digitise it, and compare it with a library of calls that have been fed into

the computer," says Dr Jones. The ultimate goal is to be able to do automatic acoustic surveying in the field as a non-invasive way of monitoring bats' feeding areas.

"All British bats are protected, but many have undergone population declines and habitat loss," says Dr Jones. "While the bats and their roosting sites have generally good legal protection, safeguarding their feeding areas has had a lower priority. If we want to conserve bats ef-

Legal Notices

## **UPDATE**

MORE DOUBTS have been cast on the work of Arpad Pusztai, who said that rats fed genetically modified potatoes suffered stunted growth and damaged immune systems, Scientists from the Rothamsted research centre in Hertfordshire said that Dr Arpad's report would be unpublishable in a refereed journal, echoing concerns voiced last week on this page by Professor Tom Sanders of King's College London, Rothamsted said it was hard to see how Dr Pusztai had arrived at his conclusions, based on a statistical analysis of the data, "Dr Pusztai's reputation as a lectin Iplant protein] chemist is... high. However, the experiments and his conclusions imply limited familiarity with experimentation with plant material animal nutrition

A CHUNK of the Moon roughly 50 metres across has been discovered in a solar orbit just beyond that of the Earth, according to New Scientist. Discovered by an automated telescope that hunts for asteroids, the new object - catalogued as 1999CG9 - orbits the Sun roughly once every 1.09 years and lies 9million kms (5.6m miles) further out than the Earth. The most likely explanation is that it is a piece of the Moon, blasted into orbit by a meteor impact.

or statistical inference."

SCIENTISTS HAVE found that a newborn marsupial mouse relies more on its skin than on its lungs to breathe. The Australian Julia Creek dunnart. Sminthopsis douglasi, is 4mm long at birth. Scientists from McGill University in Montreal, Canada report in Nature that gas exchange through the fine, hairless skin exceeds that through the lungs. It was not until the animals were 20 days old that the lungs contributed two-thirds of respiratory needs. This is the only mammal shown to rely more on its skin than its lungs for breathing; it can do so because its small size gives a high surface-areato-volume ratio. CHARLES ARTHUR/

STEVE CONNOR

Unusual Gifts

Metro Hearts

## STARS AND PLANETS: MARCH

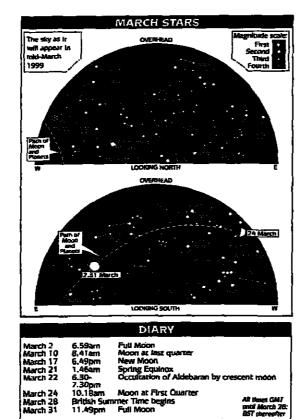
OUR MILKY Way galaxy is populated not just with stars and planets made of ordinary matter, but with worlds made of a strange kind of "mirror matter" that we cannot see. This startling new theory links together experiments in particle physics and measurements of gravitational force in the Universe – and it suggests that aliens could be living much closer to us than we might suspect. The starting point is

evidence that our Galaxy has an unexpectedly strong gravitational pull – more powerful than we would expect from the visible stars and gas making up the Milky Way. It must contain some kind of "dark matter" that has a gravitational pull but is not obvious to any telescope. Astronomers in Australia

and Chile are on the track

of this dark matter. They have found that the stars in a neighbouring galaxy, the Large Magellanic Cloud, sometimes seem to brighten unexpectedly. Most likely, their light is being focused by the gravity of objects in the outer part the halo - of the Milky Way. These objects are called Machos - massive compact halo objects - and they weigh about half as much as the Sun.

Machos cannot be ordinary stars, because they don't emit any detectable amount of light. Most astronomers think



Moon at First Quarter

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Universe we see, such as

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the heaviest "mirror stars"

Galaxy weigh about 10

the proton and the electron,

mirror-particle would weigh

only one-twentieth as much.

The mirror-world has a

shrunken star - a white dwarf, a neutron star or a black hole. But Rabindra Mohapatra and Vigdor Teplitz, of the University of Maryland have a new idea, rooted in particle physics. There is now a lot of evidence that the light particles called neutrinos can change from one type into another. The results are best fitted if the neutrinos first change into a different kind of matter

altogether - so-called

would weigh half of the Sun's mass. Mohapatra and Teplitz

realised that is just about the mass of the Machos in our Galaxy. Mirror-stars fit the bill for Machos in another way, too. They would not be visible. because they produce "mirror-light" that can't be detected with an ordinary telescope. . Mohapatra believes that

the mirror-stars could easily have mirror-planets and on these worlds life may have arisen. These aliens cannot see us, any more than we can see them.

What's up this month Early March is a good time for Mercury-spotting. On March 3. it sets over an hour after sunset at about 7.30pm, before turning tail and plunging back sunwards by mid-month. Its fellow inner planet, Venus, is also visible in sunset skies, growing even brighter and setting three hours after the Sun.

Mars is beginning to put an appearance in our evening skies again, rising about 10pm mid-month. The stars now on view tell us that Spring is on the way. Replacing the winter constellations at centrestage are the spring constellations of Cancer and Leo - the latter being one of the most ancient star-patterns of all, and one which really does resemble its namesake, the lion.

HEATHER COUPER AND NIGEL HENBEST

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Nicholas Roger Varian

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Michael Ricketts Licensing and Compliance, Passenger Services Group, Office of the Rail Regulator, 1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London ECIN 2TQ

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# The book and the box office

A film of a novel can make its author rich, but it's a tortuous business - especially for good ones. By Steve Jelbert

ence work ever rendered the sublime so mundane as the unwitting flair of Halliwell's Film Guide? "A Russian family's adventures at the time of the Napoleonic invasion." "Twentyfour hours in Dublin with a young poet and a Jewish newspaper man." "A young man grows up with the determination to be a writer." No prizes for guessing War and Peace and Ulysses, but if you didn't spot the last as John Irving's The World According to Garp then you can justifiably ask how the hell it differed from the several thousand other novels with the same plot. Soon there will be a new résumé

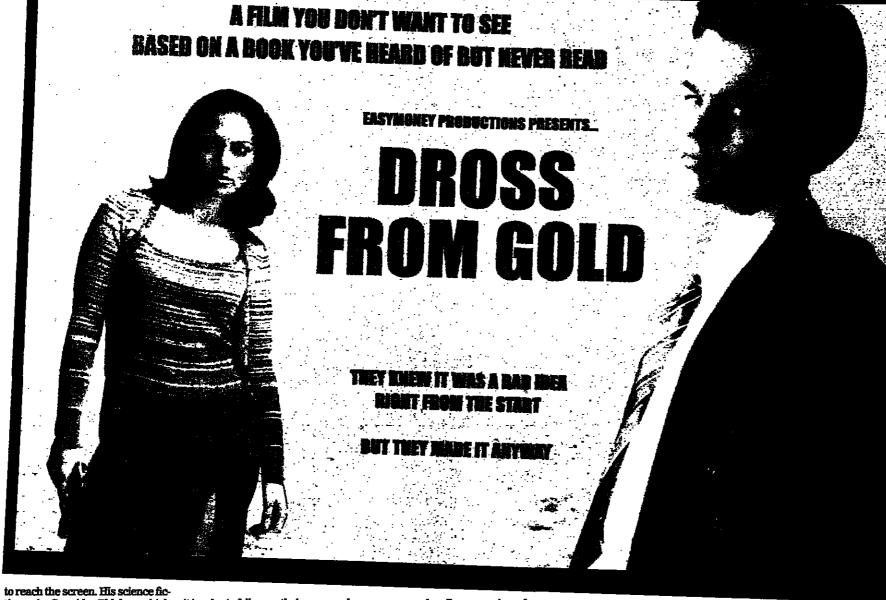
in Halliwell's: "Wall Street whizzkid imaginatively murders strangers - or does he?" Bret Easton Ellis's American Psycho finally goes into production in Toronto and New York this March, after a gestation as convoluted as the book's original publication. Initially it was mooted as a low-budget, arthouse production, to be directed by Mary I Shot Andy Warhol Harron, but soon Leonardo DiCaprio and then Oliver Stone were connected with the project.

The process has been fraught. The budget reportedly shot up to \$40m on Leo's alleged involvement; Harron, after two years' work, risked losing her place in the chair; and, of course, Lion's Gate gained publicity disproportionate with what will now be an "R" rated \$15m project, well below the Hollywood norm.

In fact, it seems like the only loser might be Ellis himself. With the originating author's fee frequently tied to a percentage of the overall budget, when Leo walked, so did around half-a-million bucks, assuming Ellis was on a standard writer's deal.

Still, at least someone is actually filming American Psycho. Baltimore's King of Kitsch, John Waters, spent years pursuing John Kennedy Toole's much-loved A Confederacy of Dunces. Chat-show host Johnny Carson at one point owned the rights, but they currently rest in the hands of a mysterious Texan, who is apparently rejuctant to relinquish them. The late Johns, Belushi and Candy, were seriously considered for the title role. More recently, John Goodman refused to have anything to do with it, pre-sumably fearing for his life. With Stephen Fry currently suggested, who can blame him?

Similar ownership wrangles be-devil attempts to film Iain Banks' The Wasp Factory, soon exhibiting in an Irish courtroom. Of his other works, only Complicity is certain



tion epic, Consider Phlebos, which he concluded by killing off the leading characters to spare himself the chore of penning endless sequels, is eminently commercial and he's gone on record as being willing to change the ending, so fond is he of some of the set pieces within.

One down though (equal with Martin Amis, although money has finally been found to produce most, er famous author Salman Rushdie, Will Self, and Charlton Heston's favourite, Patrick O'Brian.

You can bet that all their works have been optioned. With the majority of authors so ill-rewarded, even the mere carrot of an option, commonly no more than a few thousand pounds, cannot be refused. The real money comes if. gets made. The major American players can easily afford to hold rights for years, though as one author's agent complained, they find

it harder to follow up their supposed interest by entering a bookshop, preferring to scrounge copies.

Here, where finance is generally harder to come by, potential investors are reassured by the solid evidence presented by a novel. Producer David Nicholas Wilkinson happily admits to massaging the facts to convince backers of an unlikely adaptation of Virginia Woolf's Money), and ahead of the world's To The Lighthouse: "I told them every library has X copies, each taken out 20 times a year, and made up a figure for a potential au-

dience." He got his money. He also makes the point that "really good novels don't generally make really good films", and it's true that plenty of forgotten books inspired classics. Peter George's Red Alert became Dr Strangelove; and it's a huge if, the film actually The Hoods by David Aaronson (who, he?) inspired Leone's epic Once Upon A Time In America; and the original novels behind Midnight Comboy, The Graduate and Verti-

go are now hardly remembered. Two of Martin Scorsese's best films are taken from unlikely sources. Jake LaMotta's autobiography. Raging Bull, could have comfortably borne the title American Psycho, and if anything the movie is a bowdlerisation, while Nick Pileggi's than it takes to watch its adaptation, GoodFellas.

Reducing a novel to a 100-page shooting script is a difficult task few authors have succeeded at. Arformer film critic, and the erratic Terry Southern ever managed it comfortably. Of present day screenwriters, unusually, the Coen Brothers seem to actually read books. Both Furgo and The Big Lebous-ki feel adapted from never written novels, while Barton Fink expressly confronted the contradiction between the writer working alone and the collaborative process

Publishing and cinema have one thing in common though - the idiotic "high concept" one-line pitch. One of the joys of the Internet is a site called "screenspec.com", where hopefuls put up their titles and synopses on the off-chance that Wiseguys can be read in less time -a bored producer, or more likely, a junior goier, will be browsing. I won't spoil your pleasure, but: "Bright Eyes (SF/Thriller): 'A family vacation turns into a family disaster when teenagers find an egg in guably, only Graham Greene, a a cave that hatches into a killer is one of the more coherent efforts.

> Yet puzzles remain. Where is the film of Donna Tartt's The Secret History? Or that other perennial student favourite, Patrick Süskind's Perfume? Why won't anyone attempt Carl Hiaasen's excellent satirical thrillers? Is it because Demi Moore was out-acted by a woman bearing comedy breasts

No wonder people play safe with

book rights.

and the monicker "Pandora Peaks" in the awful Striptease? Whither the brilliant Joe Lansdale - brutal, witty crime yarns with the best dialogue this side of Elmore Leonard? Come to think of it, where's Leonard's superb Freaky Dealty? Stephen Dobyns' Church of Dead Girls? And how about Alan Furst's currently un-optioned set of noir spy-novels? Intelligent, cultured - ideal for Liam Neeson to get back into a trenchcoat.

Louis De Bernières recenth said he won't sell the rights to Captain Corelli's Mandolin, fearing that any actor would disappoint his readership. True, if us Brits make it we'll probably get Colin Firth done up swarthy, but while the American film industry continues to pump out films like Dean Quizote, starring a youth who once played "fighting boy" in an episode of Buffy The Vampire Slayer, it's sad that he doesn't need the money.

DANCE PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET SADLER'S WELLS LONDON

WE OUGHT not to be surprised to meet good dancing from Seattle; this is the town where Merce Cunningham trained and Mark Morris was born. For 25 years now, it has been the home of Pacific Northwest Ballet, which this week is making its London début, following a warm reception at last year's Edinburgh Festival. To see these dancers in Balanchine's Four Temperaments on Monday night was to rejoice at their quality.

Set to a rich, melodious score by Hindemith (which Balanchine had commissioned from his Broadway and Hollywood earnings), this was the ballet in which, in 1946, the choreographer first set out his vividly personal neoclassical style. Francia Russell's staging for PNB preserves the version in which she danced with New York City Ballet years ago, maintaining a fascinating raw edge compared with Balanchine's later revisions.

This is especially true of the first solo, "Melancholic", danced by Seth Belliston with a thrilling sense of danger in his sudden falls and twists. But all the cast are sharply exact in their movements, with feet that stab or stretch beautifully. Patricia Barker's jumps and turns in her "Sanguinic" solo have a glorious breadth and speed, and the ballet's finale builds smoothly to its soaring climax. Another Balanchine ballet, his two-act A Midsummer Night's Dream, was PNB's Edinburgh hit last year, and that will be given at Sadler's Wells from Thursday: definitely worth seeing. Boldly, however, and rather rashly, the company's directors, Kent Stowell and Francia Russell, chose to open with an all-American mixed bill by choreographers mostly unknown here, and who come nowhere near to living up to Four Temperaments.

Stowell's own Quaternary, a pure dance piece for four couples to Rachmaninov's two-piano Suite No 2, is the most pleasing. It gives the dancers attractive if conventional things to do, and lets them look happy while they are about it. For the life of me, however, I cannot see the point of muffling the men's legs up in baggy trousers so their spectacular steps are hidden.

The other two ballets also suffer from drab costuming, but that's the least of their problems. Kevin O'Day's Aract and Donald Byrd's In The Courtyard both present their dancers in sour and oppositional mood to turgidly raucous scores by, respectively, Graham Fitkin and Louis Andriessen.

These dancers deserve better. JOHN PERCIVAL

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# Cardiff's coolest

IRVINE WELSH (and anyone else wanting to know how to bring young people back into the theatre) should take a trip to Cardiff. Now that rock'n'roll, and Welsh rock'n'roll in particular, is... well... the new rock'n'roll, there are few greater enticements that a play can offer hip young things than the slogan "in association with the Manic Street Preachers".

The Manics, bot from their double whammy at the Brits Best British Band and Best Album), have taken time out to lend their support to this play about "the generation without a voice, until now". The fact that the first-time playwright Patrick Jones is guitarist Nicky Wire's big brother is, of course,

THEATRE EVERYTHING MUST GO SHERMAN THEATRE

CARDIFF

And so the young and the cool of Cardiff flock to Everything Must Go - a bleak tone poem set in the urban wasteland of South Wales. Opening with the declaration that "we didn't start fighting the war that's called 'living today'", it is a nihilistic call to arms for a generation raised on unemployment benefit and

Writer Jones is a published poet, and his first play drinks deeply from the well of asso-nance and the ancient trad-itions of Welsh lyricism. The actors, meanwhile, deliver the raging swaths of text with style and power As A, the articulate (anti-)hero trying to fight an enemy he cannot identify, Oliver Ryan is by turns funny and bombastic, touching and terrifying. As Pip, who is more resigned to the bleakness of his existence and gets what kicks he can from car theft and drugs, Roger Evans plays the Box office: 01222 230451

perfect downbeat foil to Ryan's frenetic fluency. The director Phil Clark and the designer Jane Linz Roberts create a bleak, macabre anti-wonderland in which set-pieces are staged meticulously, and a swarm of extras - from greensmocked, masked, robotic factory workers to a stylised monochrome graveyard that

Everything Must Go is not a feel-good play. With its constant supine threat that "one day we'll find our voice" (but not today) and its railing against "Them" - the faceless forces that hold the oppressed Welsh masses down - there are times when Everything Must Go is less Cool Cymru and more Whingeing Wales. Either this play is a decade late in its depiction of the Welsh zeitgeist, or the crust of newfound Cambrian confidence is still tremulously thin. But for those supposedly theatre-shy young people, it's the hottest ticket in town. TOBY O'CONNOR MORSE

Runs until 13 March 1999.

# Sorted for seduction

IN THE normal course of things, "You dancin'?" is a pretty straightforward question, with a range of fairly uncomplicated responses, the perkiest being, of course, "You askin'?". Late on Friday night at The Arches club in Glasgow, though, this simple exchange went all metaphysical on us. "Are they dancin'?" a bewil-

dered clubber asked me, faced with three folk all in white shimmying behind gauzy netting. The irony of his question was delicious given the fact that behind him hundreds of groovers were seriously funking it up on the dance floors, blissfully ignorant that a choreographed dance performance

was taking place in the corner. This was contemporary dance – the kind you ordinarily pay money to sit and watch meets club culture. Choreographer Gary Lambert (who has worked with Roni Size on similar projects) and his company had collaborated with SLAM DJs Stuart & Orde, and guest DJ Carl Cox, to present XXL, a two-part performance which extra-extra-larged it up from about 1am, just as things

DANCE GARY LAMBERT/ CARL COX XXL, THE ARCHES

**GLASGOW** 

were getting hot and sweaty. Most of the crowd were there either for the near-legendary Cox, or just as regular punters at this hugely popular monthly Pressure night.
The collaborative effort got

off to a horribly naff start, with two female dancers writhing around a bit in a sort of net curtain cage in the corner of the bar area. Given the fact that most of the clubbers didn't know to expect a proper respectable contemporary dance performance, you can imagine the response. Blokes stared, not believing their luck. It all looked a bit like fullyciothed eroto-pervy lap dancing or foxy ladies brought in to spice up Top of the Pops.

Coolness was restored in the second part of the performance, with Lambert joining in on a larger raised area in the innermost arch of this dark, dank club. It was a simple and

slightly spacey performance, with soft white and blue lighting, limited projections on to the surrounding gauzy screens and slow, seductive movements to some lethally heavy industrial trip hop. As Carl Cox and chums built up the big crunching beats, Lambert and Co layered movements into a

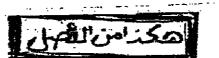
soothing, calming whole. For a crowd largely sorted for Es and whizz, it deliberately offered chill-out potential and thankfully was a world away from a social experiment on Newsnight last year when they put an opera singer into a club. Once it got into its serene, languorous stride, XXL was about as fine an example of this kind of collaboration as you can imagine - laid-back, entirely optional viewing sensitive to the fact that most people just wanted to dance rather than watch other people doing it. When it finished, the small

crowd turned back to where Carl Cox was brewing up a storm on the dancefloor, keen to get back to the much more serious business of their own choreography.

ELISABETH MAHONEY







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at A Pile

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# **MUSIC**

# Vorsprung durch Technik

What links Pulp, German encrytion machines and Sixties' sci-fi soundtracks? It can only be Peter Thomas. By John O'Reilly

ith its anonymous symmetry, the hotel corridor is the perfect front for a clandestine assignation. A door opens and someone emerges with an astronaut's helmet and a smoke machine. A small elderly man waves goodbye. It's an X-File moment. Because this 71-year-old German is the secret link in pop history which connects military encoding devices to drunken Soviet troops in post-war Berlin to Donna Summer, to Pulp, to Air. This man is Peter Thomas.

Thomas's "Bolero on the Moon Rocks" last appeared in the charts as a sample on Pulp's "This is Hardcore". His imaginative orchestral arrangements, innovative use of primitive musical technology and avantgarde loopiness have attracted contemporary innovators in electronica, from Tom Rowlands of The Chemical Brothers to the cult American loungecore band The Combustible Edisons,

Thomas is promoting a new double CD. Warp Back to Earth, containing one CD of his own work and the other a reinvention of his music by musicians such as Saint Etienne, Stereolab and Coldcut. Which explains the smoke machine and the astronaut's helmet on the arm of the musicmag photographer.

He is a diminutive, casually dressed figure. His shirt conceals what look like a cravat and gold chain, which don't quite match the rest of his clothes. But they fit someone with houses and villas in Lugano, Kitzbühel and Saint Tropez, bought from the proceeds of a vast back catalogue of film and TV sound-tracks.

This is the 60th interview that Thomas has conducted all over Europe in the last few weeks - a punishing schedule even for a younger pop musician. As we talk, the thought occurs that mental exhaustion is the cause of Thomas's frequent conversaFANS' NOTES

Bob Stanley, Saint Etienne 'I first came across Space Patrol when it came out, but I

really liked his compilation album Moonflowers and Mini-Skirts. I liked the idea of people like Moroder and Thomas conducting these sound

Tim Gane, Stereolab "He is a brilliant arranger but he also writes his own music which isn't always the case. The arrangements are somewhat strange but very interesting, a bit like Morricone."

about his life, which began in Berlin in the Twenties and now involves his work being reworked by modern electronic musicians such as Air. Not for the last time, Thomas visibly flutters like a butterfly. "Yes... It's a long way from there to today... to... Pulp. It's a long way to Tipperary... it's a long way to Pulp." But Thomas is simply an eccentric, and it is a signature of his music.

He began learning music at the age of five. He learnt the piano, which became extremely useful in the chaos of post-war Berlin, as he remembers with the insouciance of those from a generation who grew up in harder times. "It was easy to get work. After the war there were four sectors. I was playing piano in a group. For the British officers I played British music. In the American Officers' Club, American music, and Russian music in the Russian Club." Though Thomas passes this off as anecdote, tional free-association. Such as when I ask it would be unsurprising if his eccentrici-

ty emerged as a response to the jarring mix of the brutal and outlandish world of a Berlin in ruins. While he was playing to Russian officers, a soldier put a gun to his head and told him to play the "Minute Waltz" in a minute, or be shot. Displaying a facility for improvisation which staved with him through his music career, he completed the piece; the soldier was so impressed that he offered him a job.

But the major influence on Thomas was the American music that had been banned by the Nazis. Until musicians got hold of sheet music from the GIs in post-war Berlin, his knowledge of the American idiom was limited. He recalls with wonder: "With American music I learnt that you had to play from the heart as well as the head. It opened my eyes to the possibilities of what I could do."

Perhaps the accelerated introduction to this variety of musical styles left its mark. Thomas's work ranges from brooding sound-tracks for The Edgar Wallace Mysteries to the futuristic brass of Space Patrol, a cult German sci-fi series whose "Bolero on the Moon Rocks" provided the horn samples for Pulp. The Space Patrol album, written in 1966, is credited with the first recorded use of the vocoder, which was made fashionable again in 1998 by Air (and promptly made unfashionable again by Cher on "I Believe"). Thomas used a vocoder he had discovered in the basement of a Siemens factory. In technology's inverse evolutionary logic, this baby vocoder was so big that you could walk inside it.

The origin of the vocoder is in military encrypting machines. "In the Second World War," says Thomas, "you could speak into a vocoder device in Berlin, and then hear it decoded in Paris. In Space Patrol, I thought about how I could make a marriage between two instruments, a voice and a cello. The marriage was in the vocoder. I asked the cello player to play a long note. He asked: 'How long a note?' I said: 'Until Christmas.' Then I spoke the countdown."



Peter Thomas: the godfather of electronica

It is uncanny the extent to which ney from Germanic brass-band music to his music, surf the orbit of sense. "I hate genealogies of popular music can be traced back to Peter Thomas. If German disco queens were the fathers, so to speak, of American hi-energy and, eventually, house music, Thomas was in at the very beginning. He worked with Donna Summer before Giorgio Moroder, putting out her first in an open way." single, "Black Power"

Thomas is of the same generation as the any comparison between his artistic jour- comes animated, and his metaphors, like is released on 15 March

international avant-garde, and Benys's own search for a new artistic vocabulary. "Beuys made art with soap and wax. He was experimental and no one understood him. mas, and you turn it, grill it, steam it, kiss Now he's dead, and young people think he's it and make a new sound. Unfortunately, Air a great man. He made young people think

So what does he make of the open way in which his own music was re-fashioned artist Joseph Beuys. I ask whether he sees on Worp Back to Earth? Thomas again be-

the word 'remix'. The best remix is when the original disappears. Peter Thomas meets Stereolab, ColdCut, The High Llaaren't on the CD. Their version will be out a little bit later, alligator,

The 'Warp Back to Earth' single is released on Monday. The album of the same name

## LYRIC SHEETS

MARTIN NEWELL

After Amy Lauer answered an ad in The 'Sunday Times' Lonely Hearts column to meet "a successful, good-looking, musician/composer 43" she found herself dating Tubular Bells maestro, Mike Oldfield. Many other veteran rock stars have recently come on to the market.

## The Rock Star Dating Kit

Since months of hell

a) Boyhood genius b) Wildman c) Millionaire

I have decided that I'd a) To leave b) Largactylc) Tony Blair

His problem is he's: a) Mad on football b) Not Keith Richards

And can't stop playing

a) Models b) Sting

c) The trainset in his attic Another major draw-

back is he's: a) Moody b) Bankrupt c) Barking mad

ROGER TAYLOR

But old enough to: a) Dress himself b) Buy firearms d) Be my dad

The periodic tantrums: a) Terrified me b) Are hilarious c) Not on vid

My only souvenir's his: a) Bank book b) Secret diary

As soon as I get a) Well b) Remedial surgery c) A good lawyer

I'm going to: a) Marry Mick b) Rebuild my life c) Sell GM soya

Martin Newell – Poetic Licence', Independent poems 1994-1996, is available now

# A princess of trailer trash

BEFORE THEY play a note, Cha Cha Cohen's story is the singer's alone. Jacqui Dulany has ranged the world, from her native Sydney to five years in an unknown Manhattan artrock band, to Texas, and her current day job as a croupier in a New York Native American casino. The cover of Cha Cha Cohen's eponymous LP shows her as a kitsch saint, anointed by angels. The lyrics are all country noir, trailer-

park tragedy. The Leeds musicians who helped graft Madchester organ grooves to Dulany's adopted NYC blues - not to mention techno and hip-hop loops, a touch of Beck and a smidgen of Stax - are clearly vital to the record's allure. But it's Dulany whose history animates their name. It sounds

like her secret identity.

She arrives breathlessly late, having overseen the hospitalisation of an appendixpunctured member of the support band. She's tall and blonde, in an oriental green dress, and her presence inevitably overwhelms the four bookish men behind her. They concentrate on the record's complexities, achieving the mood of an old blues movie or, as on "Clean Slate", a version of the Velvet Underground's drone, Dulany muttering on

The drama of the night, though, is the gap between such icons and the pretender in front of us - the feeling that the transformation of an adcomplete. When the crowd London, tonight

top, their Nico.

LIVE CHA CHA COHEN BORDERLINE

LONDON

shout complaints, she answers every query; when a man reaches out his hand, she shakes it, as if it's the audience who are in control. But then, when she sings, she sways slightly, her gravelly voice getting lazy, eyes slowly closing. She seems in a space between terror and abandon. Eyecontact reveals her progress. At first, it's almost desperate. But, as the band begin the groove of "Serpentine Slip", and her voice is made to carry it, she starts to believe in herself. Then someone shouts "Trailer trash!", a compliment in this context.

This still seems a version of herself, a performed persona, an exaggeration of whatever real desires pushed her round the world. When the supercool Sixties organ riff of "Nothing to Do" begins, the look on her face still wonders, what am I doing here? But when she sings "I am the only cowboy in my class", it sounds real. She ends to genuine applause, and as she tells us we're great, nerves finally fading, an Australian accent peeks through. Possessed of star power, she isn't yet the finished article. Instead, she's her band's awkward edge. NICK HASTED

venturous Sydney woman into Cha Cha Cohen support RL the mythic Cha Cha is not yet Burnside at the Garage,

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# His soul goes groovin' on

Did he jump? Did he fall? The death of Donny Hathaway is shrouded in mystery. But one thing is certain - he was a genius. And he influenced the best. By Chris Wells

duced for Curtis Mayfield, sang hit duets with Roberta Flack, recorded a movie soundtrack at the behest of Quincy Jones and began his own albums with classical tone poems. Donny Hathaway really should have been one of the biggest soul stars of all. But 20 years ago, he fell to his death from the 15th-floor bedroom window of a left on his own." New York hotel .

On the evidence of a door locked from the inside and information that, six years earlier, the singer had been diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, police assumed suicide. Some of his family and friends, however, maintain that Hathaway's death was accidental; that his mood on the night of 13 January, 1979, when he'd recorded lead vocals to "Back Together Again", later to become the last of his successful duets with Flack, had been relatively upbeat. Whatever the truth, there's no doubt that the demise of Donny Hathaway at the age of 33 robbed the music world of one of its most naturally gifted performers.

Eric Mercury, co-writer and coproducer with Stevie Wonder of "You Are My Heaven", the other tune recorded by Donny on the fateful night, unhappily describes what had become a typical studio session for his disturbed friend.

"That album, what became Roberta Flack Featuring Donny Hathaway, was supposed to be songs. He was so sick he really shouldn't have been expected to do it. In the studio he'd been talking to us in one voice and then answering himself in another. Other times he'd sit down at the piano and play all these fantastic classical themes, stuff he'd written himself. We cut what we could during lucid periods. In the end, the nurse he had with him didn't ultimately save his life. My view is he should never have been

'He combined church and secular music like nobody else – he would try anything'

Speaking publicly for the first time, Hathaway's widow, Eulaulah, herself a professional classical singer, admits that her former husband's condition had deteriorated to the point of danger: "He'd been diagnosed paranoid schizophrenic in 1973 and subsequently was hospitalised several times. Like most people who take daily medication, Donny began to think that, if he felt better, he could go it alone: he'd come off his medication and he'd end up getting worse.

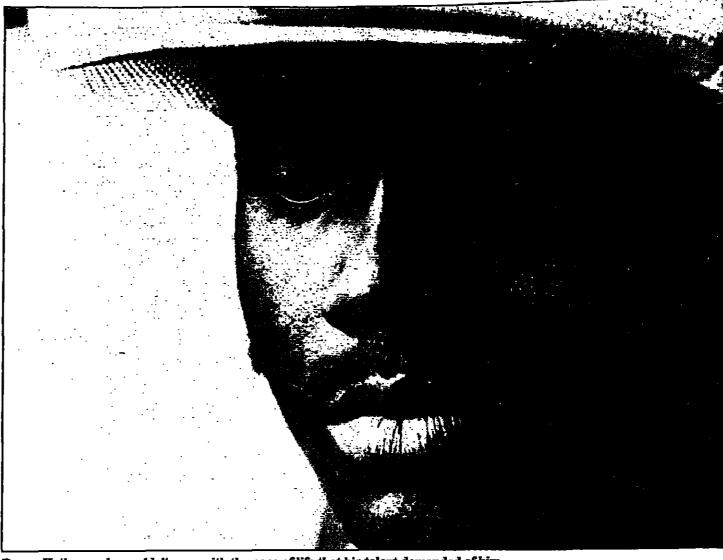
But at no point had he ever tried to harm himself. The point is, all New York hotel windows will come open and if you are neglectful enough to sit on such a ledge, you just might

wrote and pro- Donny contributed to only two from the record company to do the album? Let's just say, if he was still up to it vocally, then...

Donny Hathaway was born on 1 October, 1945, in Chicago, but largely brought up by his grandmother, Martha Crumwell, in a poor part of St Louis, Missouri. She was paraplegic but also a noted local gospel singer, and encouraged her charge's obvious musical talents through the church. It wasn't until Donny won a scholarship to Washington DC's Howard University that he encountered the "devil's music" that was iazz, soul and pop. Seventies soul star Leroy Hutson.

Donny's roommate for two years at Howard and writing partner on several of his most memorable songs (including his biggest solo hit, "The Ghetto"), remembers his friend as both an overwhelming talent and a social innocent abroad: "I recall one time, maybe a month into us being roommates, he came home when I was playing Miles Davis' Porgy & Bess album, the one with the elaborate arrangements by Gil Evans. He sat on the couch and listened for a while. Then he began moving the needle around from cut to cut. After that he sat down at the keyboard and rearranged the whole thing as it was playing. He stretched the chords and made it all his own. It was an incredible experience.
"But he found himself living life

at so fast a pace, he couldn't really handle it. He became prone to making, let's say, unwise decisions hangin' with the people that could do him no good, getting himself into duets all the way through. In the end, fall. Did he feel under pressure deals that could and did hurt him.



Donny Hathaway: he couldn't cope with the pace of life that his talent demanded of him

The contrast between his upbringing and what he found in DC and the record business was something he never came to terms with."

Hutson and Hathaway both sang for The Mayfield Singers, a vocal group put together by Impressions leader and Chicagoan soul powermover, Curtis Mayfield. After two years of straight As, Donny was se-duced into joining Mayfield's new label, Curtom, as in-house arranger and writer for acts like The Impressions, The Five Stairsteps and Holly Maxwell. Even the man who created Superfly was surprised by what he'd signed: "To see him there in the studio at about 21 years of age, directing all these real big session guys like he'd been doing it for years, was a tremendous sight to

self. He wasn't conceited about it, but he knew he could do anything these guys could do, and almost certainly better. I'd have loved to sign him as an artist, but it wasn't to be."

Instead, in 1969, Hathaway joined Jerry Wexler and Ahmet Ertegun's Atlantic Records. In 1970, "The Ghetto" was released, featuring both his wife, Eulaulah, and crying eight-month-old daughter, Laylah: it was a huge R&B hit. The album which followed, Everything Is Everything, attracted huge acclaim for its merging of classical, jazz and gospel styles.

Then, in 1972, Wexler's suggestion that Donny team up with another of his old college friends, Roberta Flack, for an album of duets, paid commercial dividends. A single, the almost cocktail lounge-smooth

international Top 10 pop hit, rockto the top of the American album charts. It provided the platform for a slew of Hathaway solo releases throughout the rest of the year, including a superb live album, and his entry to the blaxploitation movie soundtrack archives, Come Back Charleston Blue, which Donny wrote, arranged and performed under the guidance of Quincy Jones. The stage was set for what many regard as Hathaway's masterwork, 1973's Extension Of A Man.

"As its title suggests," says Roberta Flack, "that album showed all the facets of Donny's talents. One of my favourite tracks by him is 'Come Little Children'. It's basically a call'n'holler song, like the slaves

"Where Is The Love", was an in the fields would sing, and yet Donny made it 5/4 - not a rhythm eting the Roberta & Donny album you'd associate with Afro-Americans at all. He could combine the church and the secular like nobody else. I was just glad the record company didn't make him sit on top of some 'rose garden' type strings, like they did to Sam Cooke."

She adds: "There was no end to what he would try. We had learned about writing a tone poem as the opening to a piece of music at col-lege - but black people were not supposed to do that in their own music. So, in 'I Love The Lord [He Heard My Cry]', he put it right there at the opening of the album, as first track. He wouldn't be contained."

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Donny Hathaway: born 1 October, 1945; died 13 January, 1979

# Scandinavians do it with their backs to the audience

see. But he always believed in him-

FROM THE beginning of their startlingly brief set, the Swedish outfit Whale showed a wilful disregard for the conventions of live performance. Since their winsome opening track, "Crying at Airports", required only the presence of the singer Cia Sorro and the drummer Jorgen Wall, the remaining members of the band evidently deemed it unnecessary to grace the stage.

silence at the end of the song that the frisky dancing in front of the they were jolted into action. As they launched into their incendiary 1994 hit, "Hobo Humpin' Slobo Babe", the two guitarists and the bassist played with their backs to the audience and absorbed themselves in a game of oneupmanship over who could strike the silliest poses.

That's not to say that Whale

It was only after a protracted weren't entertaining. Judging by stage, it seemed that their eccentricity had seeped into the audience's psyche. But they appeared to be performing as much for each other as for the punters, and you could imagine similar mischief going on in

the privacy of their own studio. Sorro had a head start in the quest for kookiness; her wild eyes, LIVE

WHALE IMPROV THEATRE LONDON

flashing teeth and unruly hair afforded an air of dementia, though she was softened by her mellifluous vocals. Desperate not to be ignored, the drummer stood on his stool

during "Two Chord Song" and played with his back to the drums. But both Sorro and Wall were eclipsed by the high jinks of the moustached guitarist, Henrik Schyffert, who, for the duration of "Deliver the Juice" played with his guitar around his ankles and his buttocks facing the audience as if inviting them to look and admire. He later

to the English infrastructure that bined throbbing guitars, stomping has allowed us to be here", and an-drums and dance inflected samples nounced "Actually, we're Finnish! Hurr, hurr, hurr." A joke, it seems, that is specific to Scandinavians.

dynamic as their stage theatrics and They veered from furious, shouty End in Broken Bones. expressed a desire to "pay tribute" punk to light-hearted pop, and com-

with melodies that seemed far too sweet for such an unruly bunch.

But best of all was their palpable In spite of the prevailing mood of insanity. Whale looked more than silliness, Whale's music proved as ready to live by the motto expressed in the title of their shamefully overdisplayed the same crooked humour. looked album, All Disco Donce must

**FIONA STURGES** 

## RIFFS

THE FIRST AND LATEST RECORDS BOUGHT BY TATYANA ALI

First record Janet Jackson: "Control" When I was young, my musical taste was influenced by my older cousins. From the band posters covering their walls and MTV, I found out what was or wasn't cool. I love Janet Jackson. The special thing about "Control" is its

interludes, when Janet chills out and talks with her girlfriends. Me and my little friends would

get together and mimic all the different people on the record. We knew all the lyrics and videos by heart. It was in the days of vinyl, so we just put the needle on the spot and then played the same bit

over and over again until we knew tour in America, and they were so

The Outcast: "Outcast" These guys are a hip-hop group,

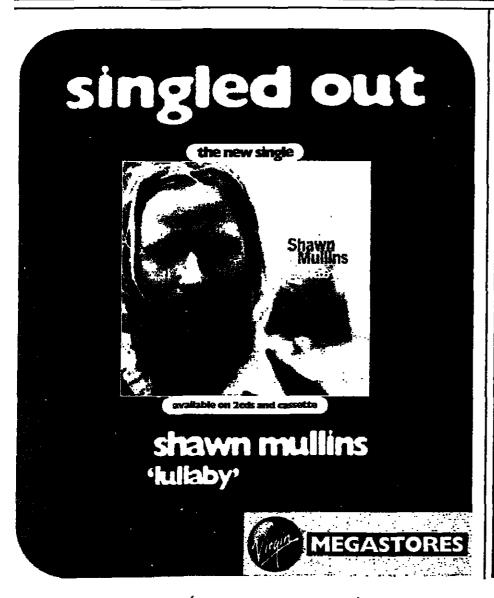
and are well-known in the States. I

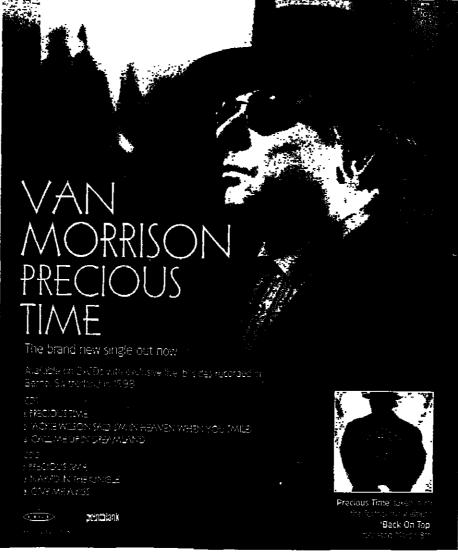
met some of The Outcast guys

when I was doing a promotional

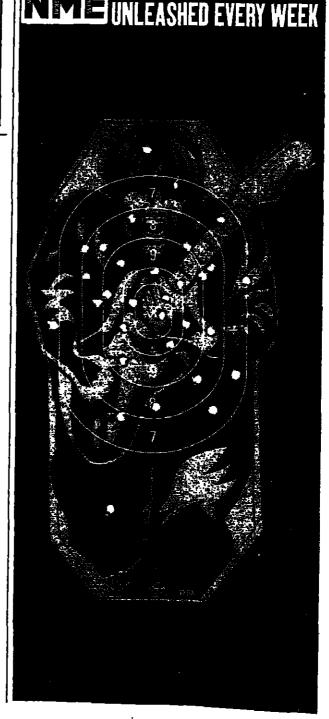
cool and nice to me that I went straight out and bought their album. The hip-hop is slightly underground, and a little more hard-core than A Tribe Called Quest, but with their laid-back vibe. The lyrics are about their own life experiences, rather like Lauryn Hill's album. It's the kind of music I always like because you get a sense of who the performers are: it makes you want to rush to the sleeve and see all the pictures and thank-you messages.

Tatyana Ali's début album, Kiss the Sky', is out now









The Independent 26 February 1999

## THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

**REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL** 



JIM O'ROURKE Eureka Domino

IF EVER proof were needed of the major labels' shameful incompetence, it can be found in the comparative performance of the tiny UK-based indie label Domino, a hotbed of taste and creativity, rather than accountancy. Following recent beauties by Smog and Bonnie "Prince" Billie, this delightful offering from Jim O'Rourke means that three of the year's five best albums so far have been released by Domino — a phenomenal achievement, only slightly tarnished by the fact that all three artists are American.

Chicago-based O'Rourke is better known as a producer of diverse interests, mostly of a post-rock persuasion: he's helmed records by Smog, Stereolab and Faust, though for substantial stretches of Eureko, it's another of his clients – the guitar genius John Fahey – whose work springs to mind. The album opens with a gentle version of Ivor Cutler's pro-feminist ode "Women of the World" set to acoustic guitar and strings, with O'Rourke's lone voice gradually joined by others as the song grows from wan optimism to a kind of benevolent communality.

It's entirely engaging, rather in the manner of the Penguin Café Orchestra; elsewhere, there are echoes of John Cale's Paris 1919 and the solo albums of Van Dyke Parks in tracks water how many times you've heard it.

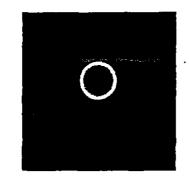
such as "Movie on the way Down" and "Through the Night Slowly", titles perfectly evocative of the way O'Rourke's dense, luxurious music develops with unharried assurance. Then, just as you think you've got him pegged as an atmospheric impressionist, he hits you with the lovely Latin lift of Burt Bacharach's "Something Big", the kind of song that even Bacharach doesn't write these days.

It's easy to get lost in the lush folds of this

It's easy to get lost in the lush folds of this music, as a track which opens with languid clarinet slips into a hazy melange of strings, steel pans and piano, before a rousing sax solo leads to an organ and piano coda. Is this one song, or three? And where are the joins? The sheer range of instrumental voices on Eurola defies simple assimilation: keening strings, ruminant horns, Latin percussion, pedal steel guitar, layered harmonies and various backward loops, all stirred into a sound that borders on pop, avant-garde and lounge muzak, without pot the strings into a particular settings.

without settling into one particular style.

It's apily titled, too: the unfathomable density of the music, and the subtlety of O'Rourke's methods, renders each play a voyage of discovery, as previously submerged elements suddenly float to the surface. The kind of record that always sounds new, no matter how many times you've heard it.



UNDERWORLD Beaucoup Fish (JBO/V2)

UNDERWORLD'S THIRD album in their current incarnation is by some distance their least satisfying, representing neither a revolutionary advance beyond previous releases, nor a significant refinement of their techniques. It's not that it's a bad album as such. It's all pretty much as before, loops and beats cycling along in a state of slow flux, with a few contemplative

commend the journey than before.
The 12-minute opener, "Cups", is typical: a minimal house pulse with tints of electric piano and blurry, treated vocals tracing the methodical thump, it builds slowly with almost subliminal increments of sound, to no particular conclusion. Gentle equalisation and filtration changes enable them to

moments punctuating the progress.

It's just that there's less to

filtration changes enable them to loop things for minutes at a time, effecting a painfully slow transformation that rarely seems worth the wait. The CD booklet is symbolic of the music, in that, having unfolded it again and again to reveal a six-panel design of a progressively enlarging umbra, you are struck by how much effort has been expended, to such underwhelming ends.



CRY CRY CRY Cry Cry Cry (Parer 6 Te)

"OUR RECORDING is but a cubic yard of dirt with 12 bright flowers and a lot of timothy grass growing out the top," writes Dar Williams in the liner-notes to this, her

collaboration with Lucy Kaplansky and Richard Shindell. I've no idea about the timothy grass, but the 12 songs here do indeed bloom with an enigmatic lustre, largely thanks to the trio's harmonies, which can be tender one moment and carry the astringency of traditional British folk singing the next. The writing, which ranges from popular material by REM and Ron Sexsmith to lesser-known but equally incisive pieces by James

tales and tableaux working
poignantly through themes of
morality, mercy, memory and loss.
It's a beautiful but emotionally
harrowing journey; few eyes will
remain dry as the trio approach
the unbearable pathos of Nields's
"I Know What Kind of Love This
Is" and Shindell's own "Ballad of
Mary Magdalen" which, by viewing

the Gospel from the woman's point

questions about Christianity than a

of view, manages to raise more

month of Synods.

Keelaghan and Nerissa Nields, is

superb throughout, a series of



PUBLIC IMAGE LTD Plastic Box (Virgin)

DESPITE THE neat packaging, which unites the twin peaks of Pill's career - the seminal newwave industrial-dub epic Metal Bor and the solid, generic Album - there's something about the band that remains fundamentally ill-suited to the retrospective box format. It's the antithesis of the rebellious spirit they once personified. In the way it smoothes the group's spiky iconoclasm with historical pomposity, it's like a turkey voting for Christmas.

This four-CD set does, however, illustrate the classic trajectory of all rock groups, the way that inspired enthusiasm erodes over time into formulaic obligation – a process John Lydon satirised by recording 1984's dismal This Is What You Want... This Is What You Get album with session hacks.

Notwithstanding the later lapses into drab proto-grunge riffing, the demeanour is, for the most part, pleasingly prickly and abrasive – mostly courtesy of Lydon's voice, which remains impressively idiosyncratic. It's hard to think of another artist in any field (apart from maybe Francis Bacon) who has operated at such a pitch of aestheticised disgust for so long.



GENE Revelations

ON GENE'S fourth album, the selfpitying swoons no longer dominate, as they did when the band trod too reverently in The Smiths' footsteps. Instead, Martin Rossiter and co have discovered political commitment, just as the New Labour administration appear to have lost theirs.

With sentiments such as "The greedy live off you and me/ This is the code, we can't break history" and "Strike first, the rich must be deprived". Revelations is probably the most overtly Marxist album released in the past four or five years – though the music is, sadly, rather less revolutionary, sticking firmly to the band's narrow indie purview. Still, tracks such as "As Good as it Gets" and "Mayday" accurately evoke the sullen disillusion of a land betrayed "when red became blue".

Gene's is a more positive move than most of their peers have managed in the face of indie decline, though the new 'hard man' Rossiter, as evidenced on the last tracks ("The Police will Never find You" and "You'll Never Walk Again"), is less convincing. All that nonsense about Stanley knives just sounds so Morrissey, to be honest.

# New worlds to discover

Bored by rock repeating itself? Heard all the classics you want to? Then this year's world music CDs may be just for you. By Jane Cornwell

WHAT WE might loosely call "world music" has been enjoying a renaissance of late. It's taken a long time coming: over the past 10 years or so, artists from Mali to Melanesia have appeared on Western stages, at festivals such as Womad or as support acts to white artists eager to reveal their discoveries to the mainstream.

Indigenous sounds from around the world have been used in film sound-tracks and ad campaigns - think Ladysmith Black Mambazo and Heinz - and have revitalised many a flagging Western career. Now that the classical music industry has exhausted its repertoire and British rock has never seemed so derivative, we're turning on to world music in ever increasing numbers.

"There's so much about that people are encountering it by accident," says Simon Broughton, editor of the quarterly songlines, a recent Gramophone publication dedicated to "journeys in world music".

"People dip in and out of categories. Now they're as likely to buy an Afro Cuban All-Stars album as to choose the latest Manic Street Preachers."

In addition, increased emphasis on marketing possibilities has changed perceptions, Broughton feels.

"Of course, the music should

"Of course, the music should be good to listen to, but the right



presentation and information can provide a window to a lot more besides."

World music CDs are cur-

rently being given greater prominence, and even window displays in megastores such as HMV, Virgin and Tower Marketing departments, it seems, have realised that the infectious beats and powerful rhythms of a whole host of world music artists offer a perfect auditory escape from the depths of a British winter.

As with any musical genre,

of course, there's the good, the bad and the downright unlistenable to. So here is a by-nomeans-comprehensive guide to the most keenly awaited releases in coming months.

Imminent must-haves include Fruta Bomba (Tumi) by Cuba's magnificent seven, Jovenes Clasicos del Son. Recipients of the Cuban government's Best Cuban Group of 1997 award, and collaborators



with luminaries such as the jazz supremo Winton Marsalis and the Cuban elder statesman Compay Segundo, Jovenes Clasicos del Son mix age-old Cuban son rhythms with soul, jazz, rap and funk.

On a completely different vibe, The Bartok Album (Rykodisc) sees the Hungarian folk musicians Muzikas doffing their pork-pie hats to the composer Bela Bartok with recordings of many of the folk pieces collected and recorded by the Hungarian composer which so inspired him. Led by the star soloist Marta Sebestyen and including the classically trained Romanian violinist Alexander Balanescu, Muzsika's Fidaller on the Roof-type ambience is as sharp as it is seductive.

sharp as it is seductive.

Four years after the dissolution of Franco-Spanist, ethnopunk band Mano Negra, the singer/songwriter Manu Chao emerges with Clandestino (Palm Pictures). Billed as a

"musical photo-journalist", Chao offers nomadic sensibility, Latin-African fusions and a quirky take on melancholy that have proved popular on the Continent, it's reckoned he will also do well here. For a unique take on Asian

music, One and One is One (Real World) by the East End Bengali outlit Joi mixes tablas, sitars and drones with the breakbeat sounds of UK clubland; Sheila Chandra's Moonsung – a Retrospective (Real World) features choice moments from the one-time Monsoon vocalist's foray into solo voice and drones.

Albums by world music greats such as the Senegalese singer Youssou N'Dour and the Cape Verdean artist Cesaria Evora have yet to receive confirmed release dates. In May, the Nascente label goes some way to remedying this by launching two double Folk Roots compilations, courtesy of the UK-based Folk Roots magazine. An entire CD of African repertoire includes the likes of N'Dour, Baaba Maal and Ali Farke Toure.

The other CD - Music From the Rest of the World - features Evora, the late, great qowooli singer, Nusrat Fateh Ali Kahn, the Greek star Eleftheria Arvanitaki and London's Transglobal Underground. It is, like its genre, a mixed bag.

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HE HEREM RIVING to be between the

# The well-connected virtuoso

Japanese violinist Joji Hattori is living proof that not all the top players hail from Korea, while London will soon have a chance to hear a Kurdish superstar

in the East, but strik-Japanese. Why should this be? According to Joji Hattori, Classic FM's house violinist, the answer lies in Japan's group work ethic, and its curious attitude to talent. "What people respect is hard work. Talent is regarded as unfair," he says. As unfair, in fact, as inherited wealth; and since this gracefully laid-back young gent is blessed with a surfeit of both, his migration west - via Austria, where he feels most at home -

Hattori's violinist mother taught the dowager Empress of Japan; he himself plays chamber music with the present Empress, who is a keen pianist. Evgeny Kissin is another frequenter of Hattori's musical soirées; Yehudi Menuhin, whose competition was one of many Hattori won in his early twenties, is a staunch supporter from the podium. La jeunesse dorée doesn't come more gilded than this.

Hattori has never been much of a practiser, but he attributes his sound to three months of daily lessons he extracted from Vladimir Spivakov by following the Russian maestro on tour round the world. "He completely changed my bowarm technique. The American style is to twist the wrist and dig into the string to get a bigger sound. Spivakov followed the Oistrakh school, using a tighter bow, and keeping the speed and pressure as constant as possible, which makes the sound grow and grow. It's more ringing, more clean than the aggressive American sound, and you never hear the click between bow-strokes."

Then - it's amazing how often musicians resort to this - he brings

e're used to out an automobile metaphor. "Their sound is like a sports car with very wide wheels, whereas mine is smooth, quiet, and elegant."

But it hasn't made him a houseingly few of hold name. "No. And until a year ago, them are I really did want fame, to be up there with Joshua Bell and co. But I have come to realise that what I really want is an interesting life as a musician." This, he says, is more likely to result from leading cham-

> **SIGHT** READINGS



**MICHAEL** CHURCH

ber ensembles - as he has done on a highly successful Bach recording with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra - than from perfunctory gigs with big-gun conductors on the inter-

national circuit. None the less, he seems a bit haunted by his famous coeval Joshua Bell, who is, like him, a visiting professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and whom, astonishingly, he has never met. Three years ago Decca released a record of Bell playing Kreisler favourites; last year Classic FM did the same with Hattori, and since the pieces are the same, comparisons are in order. Bell's tone, I suggest, is purer and sweeter,

"That," says Hattori with a laugh, "is because he hasn't eaten as much chocolate cake as I have in Vienna." But Hattori also thinks be had an ace up his sleeve in that his pianist, Joseph Steiger, had originally recorded the works with Kreisler's friend Mischa Elman. "He brought a sense of timing which came from the old days."

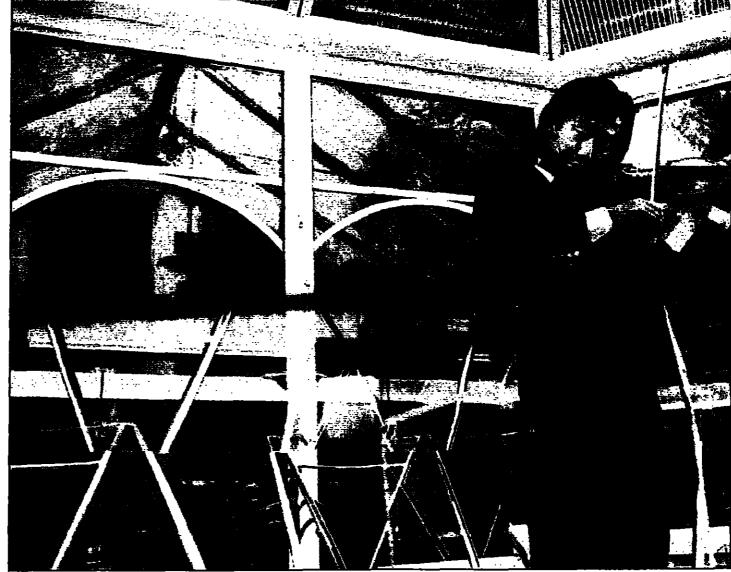
On Sunday, Hattori will give a Kreisler recital at the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate - the discreet sort of venue that he likes. Meanwhile, he's parted company with his London agent and is laying plans for a music festival in a castle outside Vienna. And yes, the owner is another of his friends.

WE'VE HEARD a great deal about the Kurds recently, but to learn about their music we have to go back to Grove. When I ring the editor of the Rough Guide to World Music to complain about his uncharacteristically sketchy coverage, he sends me a pre-publication proof of a new entry which admirably anatomises the past, present, and problematic future of Kurdish musicians everywhere. After hearing that Sivan Perwer, the Kurds' answer to Victor Jara, has found a haven in Sweden, I manage to get that rara avis on the telephone.

Perwer learned the art of balladsinging from his father, leapt to fame as a protest singer at Ankara University, and in 1976 was forced to flee abroad. His recordings have always been dangerous contraband; the few non-political ones now on sale in Istanbul are still proscribed in Kurdish areas. He's opposed to violence, which means that he's necessarily opposed to the Kurdish policy of the Turkish government. He's very worried about his father and the rest of his family, who have ful, with a thrilling virtuosity in a Hattori plays with more gusto. spent the last two years suffering huge range of styles. His next Lon-

Opera & Ballet

AMERICAN EXPRESS PROUBLY PRESENTS



Rich, urbane and immensely talented: Joji Hattori

sions to two of the pieces - which Al- Then he plays the second: a big

police harassment; the events of this past week have made their situation worse. Will he go back? "Every year I want to, but how could I?" He'd be off the plane and straight into jail.

Listening to his records ton the Global Heritage label) I can quite see why the Turkish authorities want to shut him up; he's absolutely wonder-

don appearance will be on 14 March, to celebrate the Kurdish new year. But he doesn't yet know the venue.

WHEN MARTIN Jones plays Isaac Aibéniz's massive Iberia suite at the Purcell Room tonight, four alternative scores will be available for inspection in the foyer. Jones has decided that the published conclu-

beniz left unfinished - are off beam, and has composed his own endings. "I realise I'm setting myself up to be shot at, but I can't believe he would have finished them as baidly as the printed scores suggest."

To prove his point, he plays the first one through: several pages of harmonically complex music which suddenly resolve into bare octaves.

melody that goes on for several minutes and then simply fizzles out. "You don't need to be a musician to see that the published ending doesn't fit. Now listen to the Isaac Jones version!" I do, and am convinced. This may be mild stuff compared with Anthony Payne's heroic completion of Elgar's Third, but it

## ENTERTAINMENT: CONCERTS, THEATRE, WHAT'S ON

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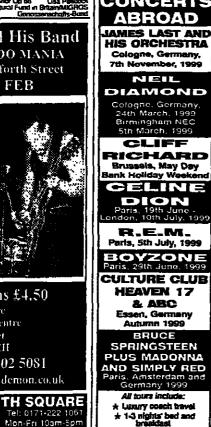
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## ON THE AIR

IN THE spirit of owning up to fore. Singers needed a new di- Goodall, the behind-the-scenes Dieskau brought a song per-German operatic voice is so common that it must be institutionalised. We can rationalise it as something to do with the quantity of consonants per sing vowel. All the same, a little personal therapy was in order, and Monday's Opera in Action (Radio 3) looked just the thing. Robert Lloyd, the presenter, brings a friendly wit to the series, and has sung so much of the stuff that he must be able

He even seemed to be taking our side. Napoleon and Beethoven, we heard, were the real villains. Before they let loose an uncontrollable spirit of nationalism, people sang properly in German with no trouble. Then there was Fidelio. Lloyd played a disc of the cast bellowing at everyone in sight during the opera's climax. Nothing

er and loathing of the express the rampant energy of the age and the music that embodied it. We were discovering the thin bit of the wedge that ended up with Wagner.

Lloyd lived up to form, cracking jokes about opera born with hairs on its chest and delivering insights born of experience. The macho sound comes not just from the density of consonants, we learnt, but the kind of consonants, and from the uttering of glottal stops before vowels. These effects cause much wear and tear and can make women more macho than the men, to judge by the desperate bawling of a Valkyrie trying to make herself heard from offstage against a gigantic orchestra.

But then the point of view started to get more complex. When Lloyd wanted coaching in the music of Lohengrin, he like it had ever happened be-said, he went to Reginald and trombones. Fischer-

was "Italian muck" and put him on to Parsifal instead. Lloyd told the story with an air of indulgence and made up for it with a dose of Lohengrin sung by Placido Domingo, calling him an honorary Italian. But where do we turn when the Wagnerians ture out to be even

more bigoted than we are? Riding to the rescue came the mellow baritone of Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, who spent his whole career trying to make singing in German lyrical again. He has left a permanent influence. Listening to Simon Keenlyside's recital of Schumann songs later that day the line of descent seemed clear. Yet there is a big difference: in song you can be intimate; you don't need to yell over trumpets

prejudice, it's time to confess. mension of dramatic force to mentor and eventually the pre-former's manner to the stage. British Wagner performers. world of its own like most of his Goodall told him that this opera colleagues, did a U-turn and reverted to a bout of gasping

admiration for the colossal

voice of Hans Hotter. I heard

Hotter live, and know how fine he was. But this extract had him sounding crude and overvibrant, fighting a grotesquely inflated orchestra through Wotan's "Farewell". The noiseharmonic conducted by Georg Solti, no less, and they set off another train of thought that Lloyd ignored. Surely the real villains are conductors and the builders of big opera houses. They have made louder and louder music fit into ever greater spaces, and the voices can't take the strain without becoming - well, Germanic, So our prejudice in the end is musical. It's what we call it that

## THE COMPACT COLLECTION

# Three into one does go

EVERYONE KNOWS Puccini's aria "Oh my beloved father", but what about its parent opera? Gianni Schicchi concerns a Florentine peasant who cunningly contrives to unite his daughter and her young lover. It comes third in a sequence of three operatic "single-acters" making up Il Trittico. The other two are Suor Angelica - in which a young nun takes poison when she learns that her illegitimate son is dead – and Il Tabarro, the tale of a barge-owner who strangles his wife's trespassing lover. All three works are shot

through with astonishingly original ideas (Suor Angelica owes most to Wagner), but it is IITabarro that lands the surest musical punches. Take one part Tosco, two of Turondot, add a twist of Richard Strauss and a pinch of Berg, and you will end up with some idea of what to expect.

and EMTs new Trittico catches the LSO at white heat. It also serves as evidence that Antonio Pappano is unrivalled among modern maestros as a master of Puccini's unique tonal palette, and that conductor and orchestra enjoy a powerful relationship. Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorgiu take the roles of Rinuccio and Lauretta in Gianni Schicchi and the due amanti in Il Tabarro, while Maria Guleghina surpasses herself as II Tabarro's Giorgetta. The

is brilliantly orchestrated

Of course, modern sound doesn't always guarantee maximum musical drama. Another new release - or should I say re-release - achieves virtually as much impact through a tightly packed mono recording. Antal Dorati recorded his only complete recording of Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake

digital sound quality is

spectacularly good.

back in 1954. The orchestra was the Minneapolis Symphony, and Mercury's engineers made a hi-fi feature of the brass and percussion. No other version of the final scene is quite as exciting, though some may balk at the wirytoned violins (excepting the concertmaster Rafael Druian's gorgeous solo playing), the reedy woodwinds and the odd slip in ensemble. The performance itself is little short of magnificent, a theatrical tour de force, fast, energetic and profoundly balletic. Mikhail Pletney's

Rachmaninov is scarcely less brilliant, though rather more subtle. Pletnev's benchmark June 1998 recording of the epic Corelli Variations uses Rachmaninov's own piano, newly restored with hammers of the period, and places it in the context of music that Rachmaninov performed but never recorded. Beethoven's

played with remarkable finesse, and so is selected Chopin, Mendelssohn and more Rachmaninov. To hear Pletnev tackle Mendelssohn's Andante cantabile e Presto agitato is to recall, in speculative detail, what the great man himself may have sounded like in the same repertoire. The recording venue was the composer's summer home near Lucerne, and the sound quality has a small-room realism that brings the listener into close proximity with some superb planism. Pletney is among the most remarkable musicians on the current concert circuit. and this CD provides the perfect sampling of his art.

Puccini/Pappano: EMI CDS5 56587 2 (three discs) Tchaikovsky/Dorati: Mercury 462 950-2 (troo

Rachmaninov etc/Pletnev: Deutsche Grammophon

MONTA DURANCO (1)

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## NEW FILMS

LOVED (15) Director: Erin Dignam

Starring: Robin Wright Penn, William Hurt

Erin Dignam's Loved has been collecting dust on distributors' shelves for nearly two years now. Not because it's bad, one imagines, but because it's so subtly unclassifiable, so removed from the stock methods of tackling its volatile subject matter. Robin Wright Penn stars as an abused ex-girlfriend called upon by William Hurt's lawyer to testify against her brutal former boyfriend. Yet Loved deliberately evades the hectoring quality that fuels so many TV movies. Instead, it paints charged and troubled relationships for what they are: complex, personal and inextricably entwined. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

PAINTED ANGELS (15) Director: Jon Sanders

Starring: Kelly McGillis, Brenda Fricker

The angels are whores; the paint from the gloomier end of the palette. Jon Sanders' revisionist western revolves around a frontier brothel presided over by Brenda Fricker's no-nonsense madam. Earthy, naturalistic acting goes hand in hand with Gerald Packer's evocative visuals, though the downbeat handling makes it slow going at times. West End: ABC Piccodilly, Renoir

PERDITA DURANGO (18)

Director: Alex De La Iglesia Starring: Rosie Perez, Javier Bardem

Alex De La Iglesia's quasi sequel to David Lynch's Wild at Heart is a strutting Tex-Mex caper. tequila-ed to the gills and running on a kind of posturing wackiness. Rosie Pérez acquits herself well as the vixenish heroine who abducts a pair of all-American virgins, while Live Flesh's Javier Bardem simply glowers from beneath a comedy wig. It's camp, garish and annoyingly entertaining. West End: Clapham Picture House, Metro, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Haymarket

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

Director: Terrence Mailck Starring: Sean Penn, Nick Notte See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Odeon Leicester Square

See The Independent Recommends, above.

Cinema, Renoit

local cinemas

**BUFFALO 66 (15)** 

A BUG'S LIFE (U)

And local cinemas

BULWORTH (18)

End. And local cinemas

HIDEOUS KINKY (15)

local cinemas

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Chelsea

If nothing else, this computer-animated trifle is

surely the most unlikely Woody Allen movie we

will ever see. Repertory: Prince Charles. And

As promising as it is, Vincent Gallo's film about

an ex-con (played by himself) who kidnaps a

dancer (Christina Ricci) in order to convince his

parents that he is married, doesn't measure up

to its influences. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham

Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon

Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon

Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy

Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin

Trocadero, Warner Village West End.

Warren Beatty's satire is crude and

condescending on occasion, yet genuinely

audacious and committed, too. West End: Odeon

This arthritic antique of a romantic weepie

wheezes on towards a finale so predictable that

you'd have to be dead not to see it coming. West

End: Odeon Kensington, Warner Village West

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene

Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse,

probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in

all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West

End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington,

Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero. And

Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise

backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's

bippie single mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace

role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated

matriarch and the child stars are startlingly

good. West End: Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema,

Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and

Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-and-

all biopic of the Du Pré sisters. West End:

Jeff Goldblum plays Ricky, a scuzzball TV executive.

Fearful for his job, Ricky uses spiritual wanderer

G (Eddie Murphy) as a frontman on his shopping

show and sales go through the roof. G, in turn,

teaches Ricky a few soulful lessons; you know, about

life and stuff. Parts of Holy Mon are very funny but

the film pover quite finds the right tone. West End:

Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, Warner

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15)

Essentially this is Shirley Valentine with an Afro-

American spin but Angela Bassett works hard to

make an impression among the slide-show of

Cinema, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

Village West End. And local cinemas

Fulham Road, And local cinemas

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Curzon Soho. And local cinemas

HOLY MAN (PG)

Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero

DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART (PG)

See The Independent Recommends, above.

TITANIC TOWN (15)

Director: Roger Michell

Starring: Julie Walters, Nuala O'Neill All aboard for Troubles-hit Belfast, circa 1972, The IRA and British forces are taking potshots at each other. Civilians are dying in the crossire. Julie Walters's local mum lobbies for a ceasefire and is caught between the opposing factions. Michell's factbased fable is well-intentioned, but it's faintly lightweight, too. For a film implicitly about rage, waste and human passions, it's low on dramatic comph. West End: ABC Swiss Centre. Local: Kilburn

URBAN LEGEND (18) Director: Jamie Blanks

Tricucle Cinema

Starring: Jared Leto, Alicia Witt

As 1978's Halloween spawned a crop of shabby wannabes, so Wes Craver's Scream is siring its own breed of movie runts. Enter *Urban Lagend*, Blanks's stalk-and-slash romp, which clones Scream's tics, twists and in-jokes in much the same way that its campus killer mimics the crimes of popular myth. The result is strangely bland and inconsequential. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOU'VE GOT M@IL (PG)

Director: Nora Ephron Starring: Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan

Riffing off her earlier, more assured Sleepless in Seattle, Ephron ushers seasoned pros Hanks and Ryan through a contrived romantic comedy that's zapped out of its old-fashioned rut by a shrewd Internet plot hook. Hanks and Ryan squabble in daily life and get all gooey on-line, resulting in a brew that is soft, sludgy and just slightly on the turn. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on

# THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

#### THE FIVE BEST FILMS

The Thin Red Line (15) Terrence Malick returns to the screen after a 20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film (right) about the battle of Gnadalcanal, A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain.



Roberto Benigni directs and stars in this tragicomic fable about an Italian Jew who tries to shield his boy from the horrors of a Nazi concentration camp by pretending that it is an elaborate game. Shakespeare in Love (15)

**Life is Beautiful (La Vita è Bella)** (PG)

This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth

A Bug's Life (U) Less sophisticated and more child-friendly than

Paltrow head a multi-star cast.

Ant:, this animated feature spins an enjoyable yarn about an ant colony and its battle to survive. Kevin Spacey provides the voice of the chief grasshopper.

Affliction (15)

Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel, stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

ANTHONY OUINN

### THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Copenhagen (Duchess Theatre, London) Michael Frayn's profound and haunting meditation on science, morality and the mysteries

Okiahoma! (Lyceum Theatre, London) Widely regarded as the best ever, Trevor Nunn's glorious production (right) of the Rogers and Hammerstein classic fully deserves its West End transfer. To 26 Jun

of human motivation. To 7 Aug



(Royal Court at The Ambassador's, London) So you thought that the comic fascination of a mass-production bakery in 1970s Hull was somewhat limited? Richard Bean's delightfully funny play proves you wrong. To 6 Mar

The Winter's Tale (RSC, Stratford) An amazingly rich and complex performance from Antony Sher in Gregory Doran's Romanov-style production. In rep to 4 Mar

Hushabye Mountain (Gardiner Arts Centre, Brighton)

VIRGIN CHELSEA

VERGIN FULHAM ROAD

(25th Anniversary Rerelease) 11.40pm Holy Man 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.30pm

How Stella Got her Groove Back

11.40pm Shakespeare in Love

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END

(0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Don't Go

8.40pm, 11.10pm PTacciai Magic 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm Rush Hour 11.45pm Urban Legend 11.55am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm, 11.35pm Very Bad Things

1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm You've Got

M@il noon, 1pm. 2.50pm. 3.40pm, 5.40pm. 6.30pm, 8.30pm. 9.20pm. 10pm. 11.20pm, 12.10am. 12.30am.

**CINEMA** 

LONDON LOCALS

8.30pm, 12.35am

ODEON (08705 050007) + High

Barnet A Bug's Life 2,20pm, 4,50pm, 7pm, 9pm Hilary And Jack-

le 12.30pm, 6pm Little Voice 3.15pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.25pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 1.30pm,

3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9pm You've Got M@il 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm,

ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Becken-

Little Voice 7.50pm, 9.50pm

Shakespeare in Love 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@il

1pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm

BARNET

8.45pm

Dying of Aids and living with Aids: Jonathan Harvey's witty, sad and uneven new play looks at the disease in two eras. 3-6 Mar

PAUL TAYLOR

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy)

He lived until 1926. The gardens and fily ponds at Giverny dissolve into elemental visions: fiery lights. haze, liquid reflections, voids and depths. The strange last works of Impressionism, To 18 Apr

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever (right). Women: exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25 Apr



Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery) The modern-object world made luminous, Caulfield is a virtuoso of many styles, and this retrospective offers the range - notably, those fat, become outlines flooded with translucent colour. To 11 Apr

Peter Doig & Udomsak Krisanamis (Fruitmarket, Edinburgh) Two painters collaborate, Doig's sizzling, cordling,

overloaded landscapes mix with Krisanamis's collages of cultural detritus and noodles. To 27 Mar

**Aubrey Beardsley** (Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool)

Drawings, prints and posters from the short and brilliant career of the 1890s aesthete and illustrator, with uniquely sinuous, florid line. To 11 Apr

TOM LUBBOCK

#### CINEMA WEST END Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket,

Ah, the wedding caper. An excuse for reunions, for an ensemble cast, for the tensions of etiquette

against emotion. Writer-director Brian Sloan

ticks all the right boxes during this spry baby-

boomer outing, and yet it's too hyperactive and

The respective trajectories of two stars meet in

this out-of-season Yuletide caper. On the way down

goes Michael Keaton as a self-obsessed blues-man

who dies and is reincarnated as a snowman. And

on the way up is The Full Monty's Mark Addy as

his salt-of-the-earth best mate. Formula fun is had

by all. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Warner Village

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA E BELLA) (PG)

West End: Clopham Picture House, Curzon

Mayfair, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Kensington, Ritzu

Cinema, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket. And local cinemas

Holed up in her bedroom, timid North Country

sparrow LV (Jane Horrocks) perfects strident

Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations.

Bracing black comedy, Horrocks's vocal

pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn

from Michael Caine push it through to the final

curtain. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road,

Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Swiss Cottage,

Odeon West End, Virgin Fulham Road. Repertory:

Riverside Studios Cinema. And local cinemas

Don Roos's harum-scarum trip through American

gender politics leans heavily on a fire-cracker

performance from Christina Ricci as the dastardly teen whose precocious antics send the adults

(Martin Donovan, Lisa Kudrow) into a state.

West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road.

Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

What sustains  $\pi$  is the pure-blood ingenuity of its

central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the

language of nature" mantra and the louche, too-

cool-for-school demeanour. It all adds up. West

Essentially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, Practical Magic sees Sandra

Bullock and Nicole Kidman cast as two

mismatched sisters raised from a line of

witches. West End: Warner Village West End

See The Independent Recommends, above.

West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Claphom

Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Notting

Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon

Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss

Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street,

Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. Repertory:

A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart,

Doug Henshall et al) weave to and fro through

David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban

romance. Kane's screenplay is generally witty and

well-observed but the film cranks what might have

been a sublime one-hour teleplay into double its

natural length. Still, that's modern romance for

you. You can't fit it into tidy boxes. West End:

Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Odeon

Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon

Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West

Phoenix Cinema. And local cinemas

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

tourist-brochure visuals. West End: Ritzy End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

End: ABC Panton Street

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above.

ingratiating. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

GENERAL RELEASE

I THINK I DO (15)

JACK FROST (PG)

West End. And local cinemas

LITTLE VOICE (15)

Virgin Fulham Road, virgin Haymarkei, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West (0870-902 0404) & Piccadilly End. And local cinemas

Xan Brooks

Xan Brooks

Xan Brooks

Xan Brooks

Xan Brooks

ABC PICCADILLY (0) 17-287 4322 (from 1pm) 9-Piccadiny Circus Hamem: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 6.15pm Painted Angels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm There's Something About Mary 3.35pm, 8.20pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Affliction 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Loved 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 1.25pm, 8.25pm 3.45pm, 6.05pm,

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD 0870-902 0414) O Tottenham Court Road A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm Little Voice 9pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm You've Got M@II 1pm.

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) Moorgate This Year's Love 6pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 6pm, 8.40pm

3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 quare Affliction 1 3.55pm. 6.20pm, 8.45pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 4.10pm La Vita e Bella 6.40pm, 9.10pm Perdita Durango 9.30pm (+ Short: Grandpa) Shakespeare (+ Short: Grandpa) Shakespeare in Love 4.15pm, 7pm This Year's Love 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm (+ Short: Tunnel of Love) You've Got M@il 1.15pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 9pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park La Vita e Bella 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8,40pm CURZON MINISMA

0171-369 1723) Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge His Kinky 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm **CURZON SOHO** 

(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm) & Leicester Square Hideous Kinky 1,45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Hilary and Jackle 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Your Friends 6,30pm, 9.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE

3.40pm, 7.20pm, 11pm The Prince of Egypt 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Psycho 11.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm, 11.35pm GATE NOTTING HILL

(0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate La Vita e Bella 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11,15pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1,50pm METRO

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus Perdita Durango 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Your Friends and Neighbors 2pm, 4,15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm NOTTING HILL CORONET

(0171-727 6705) O Notting Hill Gate Shakespeare in 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

(08705-050007) ← Camden Town A Bug's Life noon, 2.20pm. 4.40pm, 6.50pm Enemy of the State 11.10pm Little Voice 8.50pm Perdita Durango 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 2.55pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm, 11.05pm This Year's Love 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 9pm, 11.25pm Your Friends and Neighbors 11.50pm You've Got M@II 12.25pm, 3pm, 5.50pm,

ODEON HAYMARKET Circus Stepmon 1: 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON KENSINGTON
(08705-050007) High Street
Kensington A Bug's Life
11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.45pm,
7.15pm, 9.45pm Bulworth
12.15am Don't Go Breaking my
Heart 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm,
9.40pm Enemy of the State
midnight La Vita e Bella 1.40pm,
4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm, 12.20am
Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm,
3.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm,
12.10am This Year's Love
1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm,
12.20am You've Got M@il
12.45pm, 3.40pm, 6.35pm,
9.30pm, 12.25am

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE** (08705-050007) & Leicester Square The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm, 11.25pm

WIRGIN FULHAM ROAD
(0870-907 0711) ← South
Kensington Hideous Kinky
2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm
Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.40pm,
6.20pm, 8.30pm The Opposite
of Sex 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm,
B.50pm Shakespeare in Love
1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm
Urban Legend 2.10pm, 4.30pm,
7pm, 9.30pm You've Got M@it
1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm,
9.15pm ODEON MARBLE ARCH ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) & Marble Arch
A Bug's Life 1.55pm, 4.20pm,
6.45pm, 9.10pm Enemy of the
State 12.40pm, 3.25pm, 6.15pm,
9.05pm, 11.55pm Holy Man
11.15pm Shakespeare in Love
12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm,
9.10pm, midnight This Year's
Love 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.40pm,
9.15pm, 11.50pm You've Got
M@il 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm,
9pm, 11.45pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET
(0870-907 0712) → Piccadilly
Circus La Vita è Bella 12.50pm.
3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Perdita
Durango 12.25pm, 3.05pm,
5.45pm, 8.30pm You've Got
M@il 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm.
8.45pm

(08705-050007) \varTheta Leicester Square A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.40pm Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Siege 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm.

5.45pm, 8.20pm ODEON SWISS COTTAGE 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm Hideous Kinky 1.55pm, 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm Little Voice 6.35pm, 8.55pm Little Voice 9pm Shakespeare in Love 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Stepmorn 1.20pm, 6.15pm This Year's Love 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm Your Friends and Neighbors 4pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@il 12.15pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm 11.40pm Shakespeare m Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm, 11.20pm Urban Legend 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.10pm You've Got M@if 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm, 11.30pm

ODEON WEST END 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm Don't Go Breaking my Heart 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Holy Man 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 9pm Jack Frost 11.50am, 2.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.40pm The Opposite of Sex 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.10pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm, (08705-050007) → Leicester Square Little Voice 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm This Year's Love 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) & Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 9.05pm L5 (IMAX) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Rec Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

PLAZA (0990-888990) & Piccadilly Circus Babe: Pig In the City 12.40pm A Bug's Life 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.30pm. 9pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm. 7.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.20pm. 3.40pm, 6pm. 8.30pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

(0171-837 8402) <del>O</del> Square Affliction 3.55pm, 6.20pm, Russell Painted Angels 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm. 8.55pm RITZY CINEMA

ACTON
PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE
(0181-896 0066) Park Royal A
Bug's 11fe 12.05pm. 1.10pm,
2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.45pm, 5.50pm,
7.05pm, 8pm, 9.25pm Don't Go
Breaking My Heart 6.35pm Enemy of the State 12.40am Holy Man
1.55pm, 4.35pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm,
12.20am How Stella Got Her
Groove Back 7pm, 9.55pm Jack
Frost 2.05pm, 4.20pm Madeline
12.40pm, 2.45pm, 4.50pm Shakespeare In Love 1.15pm, 4.05pm,
6.45pm, 9.35pm, 12.10am Stepmom 8.45pm This Year's Love
12.15pm, 2.40pm, 4.55pm,
6.55pm, 9.05pm, 11.10pm Urban
Legend 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/© Brixton Belowed 8pm A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.05pm, 8.10pm Bulworth 11.25pm Elizabeth 3pm, 5.30pm How Stella Gother Groove Back 11.55pm La Vita e Bella 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 11.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm This Year's Love 2.15pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.10pm, 11.40pm Your Friends and Neighbors 11.35pm Legend 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm, 11.40pm Very Bad Things 11.30pm You've Got M@II 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm,

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Shakespeare in Love 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@fl 8.30pm You've Got 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) <del>O</del>

6.20pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL 6.50pm, 9.15pm

Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm,

LICI WHITTELEYS 0990-888990) ⊕ Bayswater A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Hideous Kinky 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm La Vita e Bella 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Madeline 1.20pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: The Prince of Egypt 10.45am

The Prince of Egypt 10.45am Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm Stepmom 3.30pm, 6.45pm This Year's Love 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Urban Legend 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@il 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm Spm CNEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 2.05pm, 3.30pm, 4.15pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm, 9.50pm, 11.50pm Enemy of the State 12.05am Holy Man 12.30pm, 3.05pm, 9.50pm, 12.10am La Vita è Bella 1.25pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm 12.10am La Vita e Bella 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm, 12.15am Little Voice 5.30pm, 7.35pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.55pm Step-mom 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm This Year's Love 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm, 12.10am Urban Legand 12.45cm, 2.55pm VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) ← Sloane Square/South Kensington A Bug's Life 12.25pm, 2.35pm, 4.55pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm La Vita e Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 9pm This Year's Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@II 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm 4.30m, 7.20m, 9.40pm, 12.10m Urban Legend 12.45pm, 2.55pm, 5.10pm, 7.25pm, 9.45pm, 11.55pm Very Bad Things 12.05am You've Got M@il 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm, midnight

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South A Bug's Life 2.55pm, 5.15pm, 7.40pm, 9.55pm Shakespeare in Love 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm This Year's Love 12.35pm, 4.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm You've Got M@il 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford A Bug's Life 6pm Shakespeare in Love 2.30pm, 8.20pm You've Got M@it 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon A Bug's Life 5.40pm, 8pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 10.15pm Little Voice 5.45pm. 8.10pm, 10.30pm Stepmom 5.30pm, 8.15pm Zakhm 10.35pm

(0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus A Bug's Life 12.50pm, 3.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Butworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm, 11.20pm The Exorcist (25th Applications) Revolution WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon A Bug's Life 2.30pm, 3.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.10pm, 7.10pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 11pm Enemy of the State 11.50am Holy Man 7.20pm, 9.50pm, 12.30am Jack Frost 2.40pm, 5pm Madelies 2.50pm, 5pm Shakeling 2.50pm Madeline 3.50pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm, 11.20pm Stepmom 6pm, 8.50pm This Year's Love 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm, 12.20am Urban Leg-end 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.05pm, 11.30pm Very Bad Things 11,40pm You've Got M@il 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm, 12.10am

> DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway A Bug's Life 2pm, 2.40pm, 4.10pm, 4.50pm, 6.20pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9.10pm, 10.40pm Don't Go Break-ing My Heart 7.10pm Enemy of the State 11.30pm Holy Man 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm, 11.20pm Jack Frost 2.40pm, 4.50pm Little Jack Frost 2.40pm, 4.50pm Little Voice 9.20pm, 11.40pm Madeline 2pm, 4pm Shakespeare in Love 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm, 12.20am Stepmom 6.10pm, 8.50pm This Year's Love 2.40pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.20am Urban Legend 3pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm, midnight Very Bad Things 11.30pm You've Got M@il 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway A Bug's Life 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.55pm Shakespeare in Love 2.30pm, 5.20cm, 8.20cm This Year's Love 5.40pm. 8.50pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) & Edgware A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4,15pm Daag Phone for times Holy Man 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Kachche Dhaage Phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai Phone for times times Zakhm Phone for times

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) O Tottenham Hale Blade 11.20pm A Bug's Life 1.40pm. 2.15pm, 3.05pm, 4pm, 4.45pm, 5.35pm, 6.20pm, 7.15pm, 8.15pm, 9pm, 10.40pm Don't Go Breaking
My Heart 5.50pm, 8.10pm,
10.30pm Enemy of the State
10.15pm Holy Man 7.25pm,
10.05pm, 12.40am How Stella
Got Her Groove Back 6.40pm, 9.25pm, 12.15am Jack Frost 1.10pm. 3.40pm Kachche Dhaage 6pm La Vîta è Bella 2.55pi 5.45pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 9.35pm Madeline 2.45pm, 5pm Rush Hour 12midnight Shake-speare in Love 1.05pm, 3.50pm. 6.50pm, 9.15pm The Slege 11.40pm Stepmom 3.30pm, 6,30pm, 9.55pm This Year's Love 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Urban Legend 2.35pm, 5.20pm, 7.40pm, 9.55pm, 12.25am Very Bad Things 11.30pm You've Got M@2 1.20pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.45pm, 12.30am

ham Junction A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm Jack Frost 12.45pm, 3.15pm ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elephant & Castle The Acid House 3.45pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm A Bug's Life 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Hideous Kinky 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm

FELTHAM
CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham A Bag's Life 11am, 1.10pm, 2.15pm, 3.20pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Daag 3.15pm, 7.40pm, 11.15pm Enemy of the State 11.30pm Holy Man 11.10am, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm, midnight Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 11.15am, 2.45pm, 6pm, 9.25pm Kachthe Dhaage 11am, 2.40pm, 6.05pm, 9.30pm Kaun 1.30pm, 10.10pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 11.20pm Aa Ab Laut Chalain 11.10am, 2.35pm, 6.15pm, 9.45pm La Vita è Bella 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Little 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Little Voice 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 5pm, Voice 12.30pm. 2.45pm. 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare In Love 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm, midnight Shahhed-E-Mohabbat roon, 6.45pm, 10pm Stepmom 11.15am, 2pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm This Year's Love 11.30am, 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm, 11.30pm Urban Legend 12.05pm, 2.25pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm, 12.10am You've Got M@II 11.10am, 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7.10pm, 9.35pm, midnight Zakhm 11.40pm

NORTH FINCHLEY Jack Frost 1.30pm, 4pm La Vita è Bella 2pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Madeline 1.50pm, 4.05pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Stepmom 8.50pm This Year's Love 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9.30pm, 12.10am Urban Legend 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 11.55pm Very Bad Things 11.40pm You've Got M@il 2.50pm, 6.30pm,

WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 WARNER VILLAGE (0171-504 3059) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 1pm. 3.10pm, 5.55pm. 8.20pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2.10pm, 7.30pm Holy Man 1.50pm, 2.10pm, 7,30pm Holy Man 1,30pm, 4.20pm, 6,50pm, 9,40pm The Op-posite of Sex 12,40pm, 3pm, 5,20pm, 7,40pm, 10pm Shake-speare in Love 12,50pm, 3,40pm, 6,30pm, 9,20pm Stepmom 4,30pm, 9,50pm This Year's Love 1,10pm, 3,30pm, 6,05pm, 8,40pm 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Very Bad Things 10.30pm You've Got M@il 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green You've Got M@il 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich A Bug's Life 4.45pm, 6.45pm Shakespeare in Love 8.40pm, 11.15pm This Year's Love 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm, 11.10pm You've Got M@il 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm, 11pm

HAMPSTEAD 

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) @ Ravenscourt Park A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 4pm, 6.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm This Year's Love 9pm Urban Legcons rear's Love 9pm Urban Leg-end 1pm, 3.40pm. 6pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@II 1pm. 3.40pm. 6.15pm. 8.50pm

HARROW WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009)

O Harrow on the Hill A Bug's Life
11am. 12.30pm. 1.20pm. 3pm.
3.45pm, 5.50pm. 6.20pm, 8.30pm,
9.10pm, 11pm Don't Go Breaking My
Heart 6.40pm Enemy of the State
11.30pm Holy Man 12.40pm,
3.15pm How Stella Got Her Groove
Back 12.10am Jack Prost 11.40am,
2mm & 20pm 1.3 Viria & Balls Gom. 2pm, 4.20pm La Vita è Bella 6pm, 8.40pm, 11.20pm Madeline 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm Shake-speare in Love 10.55am, 1.35pm, 4,15pm, 7pm, 9.50pm Stepmom 7.70pm, 9.40pm This Year's Love 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Urban Legend 1,40pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 9pm, 11.40pm Very Bad Things 8.50pm, 11.10pm You've Got M@il 12.20pm, 3.25pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm, midnight

HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705 050007) + Hot-

ODEON (08705 050007) ⊕ Holloway Road A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 1.05pm, 1.35pm, 3pm, 3.20pm, 3.30pm, 5.10pm, 5.25pm, 5.35pm, 7.20pm, 7.30pm, 7.50pm, 10.05pm, 10 Urban Legend 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm, 10pm





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ODEON (08705 050007) - Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.40am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Little Voice 4pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm Stepmorn 1.30pm, 6.15pm This Year's Love 5.40pm, 8.35pm You've Got M@il noon, 2,40pm,

KILBURN TRICYCLE CINEMA (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn The Last Bus Home 4pm My Friend Joe 2pm Titanic Town 8.45pm Vicious Circle 6.30pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) & Highgate A Bug's Life 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm This Year's Love 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm You've Got M@ll 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm,

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye A Bug's Life 4.40pm, 7pm. 9.20pm Enemy of the State 11.35pm Holy Man 4.15pm. 6.45pm, 9.25pm, 11.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6.20pm, 9.05pm, 11.40pm Madeline 4.30pm The Parent Trap 11.45am The Prince of Egypt 2.05pm Shakespeare in Love 4pm 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm, 11.50pm You've Got M@il 3.55pm. 6.35pm, 9.10pm, 11.45pi

ABC (0870 9020401) Putney ABC (0870 9020401) & Putney Bridge/BR: Putney A Bug's Life 4.45pm Little Voice 2.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@ll 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/Richmond A Bug's Life 2.30pm,
4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm,
6.30pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@il
1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

**ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)** BR/O Richmond Don't Go Brea ing My Heart 1.30pm, 7pm Hilary And Jackle 3.40pm, 9pm Holy Man 3.20pm, 9.20pm Little Voice 7pm, 9.30pm Stepmom 12.50pm. 6pm This Year's Love 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4.15pm, 6.20pm Jack Frost 6pm Stepmom 8.25pm This Year's Love 2.15pm, 8.35pm You've Got M@il 2.25pm,

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12.15pm, 2pm, 2.30pm, 4.20pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8.40pm Holy Man 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 9pm Shake-speare in Love 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm 8.20pm S.20pm, 3.20pm speare in Love 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Stepmom 12.20pm, 3pm, 6pm. 8.35pm This Year's Love 1.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Urban Legend 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.20pm You've Got M@II 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.15cm, 2cm

STAPLES CORNER /TRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood A Bug's Life 1pm, 2.15pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm Holy Man 9.20pm, midnight How Stella Got Her Groove Back 11.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm This Year's Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 12midnight Urban Legend 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm, 12mid-night You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.45pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Hideous Kinky 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm Stepmom 2.20pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common A Bug's Life 12.15pm, 2.35pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.35pm Holy Man 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm This Year's Love 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm You've Got M@il 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7om, 9.40pm, 9.40pm

NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR-A Stratford East A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3 35pm, 5.50pm, 8pm How Stel-la Got Her Groove Back 10.15pm 7 45pm, 10.20pm This Year's Love 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.10pm, 10.30pm You've Got M@II 1.30pm, 4.15pm,

SURREY QUAYS
UCI (0990 888990) ← Surrey
Quays Antz 12.50pm A Bug's Life
tpm, 2.9pm, 3.20pm, 4.30pm, 6pm,
7.10pm, 8.30pm, 11pm Holy Man 3 30pm, 6. 10pm, 8.50pm, 11.30pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 9.55pm Jack Frost 2.50pm, 5.10pm Little Voice 7.30pm Madeline 1.40pm, 4.20pm The Opposite of Sex 10.10pm The Prince of Egypt 1.10pm Rush Hour 12.05am Shake-1.10pm Rush Hour 12.05am Shake-speare in Love 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm, 11.30pm Stepmom 6.35pm, 9.30pm This Year's Love [3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 11.50pm Urban Legend 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm, 12midnight You've Got M@li 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 11.55pm 6 50pm, 9.30pm, 11.55pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) @ Turnpike Lane A Bug's Life 4pm. 6.30pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 4.05pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm You've

DDEON (08705 050007) e Jabridge A Bug's Life 2pm. 2.30pm, 7pm Shakespeare in Love 3.05pm You've Got M@lt 1.15pm,

tow Central A Bug's Life 1.40pm. 50pm. 6pm Stepmom 8.10pm his Year's Love 1.25pm, 3.40pm,

pm, 8.25pm You've Got M@il .55pm, 5.05pm, 8.10pm

ELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) & Allesden Green A Bug's Life

SoDEON (08705 050007) BR/G-Fe-imbledon A Bug's Life 12.15pm, 7325pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm nemy of the State 11.10pm Lit-Mice Voice 4 15pm, 8.50pm Shake-Manager I Ave. 13.10pm Shake-<sup>Ha</sup>seare in Love 12.10pm, 2.55pm, <sup>7.0</sup>35pm, 8.20pm, 11.10pm Stepom 1.45pm, 6.25pm There's mething About Mary 11.15pm is Year's Love 1.20om, 3.40om. 10pm. 8.40pm. 11.15pm You've ot M@II 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 30pm, 8.30pm, 11.15pm

ABC (0181-989 3463) + South Woodford A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 8.20pm You've Got M@il 2.30pm.

5.20pm, 8.15pm

CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal A Bug's Life 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@11 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

> **CINEMA** REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Otaku (NC) 4pm (+ 5hort)

ICA The Mall. SW1 (0171-930 3647) The Traveller (Mosafer) (PG) 5pm Des Nouvelles du Bon Dieu (18) 6.30pm, 9.15pm Close-Up (NC) 7pm Bicycleran (U) 9pm

THE LUX Hoxton Square, N1 (0171-684 0201) Portishead: PYNC (NC)

NFT South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 3232) Le Salaire de la Peur (18) 2.30pm Carry On up the Khyber (PG) 6.15pm The Truman Show (PG) 6.30pm La Grande Illusion (U) 7.30pm A Soldier's Daughter New-er Cries (15) 8.30pm Veronika Voss

PHOENIX High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) Shakespeare in Love (15) 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171-437 8181) What Dreams May Come (15) 1pm Psycho (15) 3.30pm Blade (18) 6.15pm Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) 9pm The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15) 11.45pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road, W6 (0171-420 0100) Brassed Off (15) 6.45pm + Little Voice 8.50pm VENTURE CENTRE Wornington Road, W10 (0181-960 3234) Video

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) Hideous Kinky (15) 1.30pm, 7pm La Vita è Bella (PG)

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) Pecker (18) 2.30pm, 7pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 4.30pm, 9pm The Ex-orcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18) 11.15pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Your Friends and Neighbors (18) 6pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 6.05pm. 8.35pm The Apple (Sib) (PG) 8.25pm

ARTS (01223-504444) Hilary and Jackle (15) 4.45pm Your Friends and Neighbors (18) 9.30pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) 6.15pm Modulations (NC) 7.30pm Hilary and Jackie (15) 8.30pm

NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Hilary and Jackie (15) 1.30pm, 6.15pm Dead Man's Curve (15) 4.15pm La Vita è Bella (PG)

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Sitcom (18) 6pm Your Friends and Neighbors (18) 6pm

GINEMA CTY (01603-622047) Hi-lary and Jackie (15) 5.45pm, 8.15pm Blade (18) 11.15pm

ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) La

**CINEMA** COUNTRYWIDE

ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010): A Bug's Life (U): Jack Frost (PG): Shakespeare in Love

(15); This Year's Love (18); You've

ODEON (0870-207977): A Bug's Life (U); Don't Go Breaking my Heart (PG); The Land Girls (12); Little Voice (15): Madeline (U): The Opposite of Sex (18): Shake-speare in Love (15): This Year's

Love (18); You've Got M@il (PG) Virigin (0541-555145): A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15): Harriet the Spy (PG): Holy Man (PG): Jack Prost (PG): Uttle Voice (15): Madeline (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Stepmom (12): This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18): You've Got M@il (PG)

46()442); A Bug's Life (U); Don't Go Breaking my Heart (PG); Eliz-abeth (15); Holy Man (PG); Jack Frost (PG); La Vita è Bella (PG); Ittle Voice (15): Madeline (U); The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15): Stepmom (12); This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18); Very Bad Things (18); You've Got M@il (PG)

ABC (0541-560567); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U): Hideous Kinky (15): Jack Frost (PG); Little Voice (15); Practical Magic (12); The Prince of

Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); You've Got M@ll (PG) ODEON (08705-050007); Babe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U): Madeline (U): Small Soldiers (PG): This Year's Love (18): You've

ABC (01705-823538): Elizabeth (15); Enemy of the State (15); Jack Frost (PG); Shakespeare in Love (15): Very Bad Things (18) ODEON (08705-050007); A Bug's Life (U): Don't Go Breaking my Heart (PG): Dr Dolittle (PG): Madeline (U): Mulan (U): Small Sol-

diers (PG); Stepmom (12); This Year's Love (18); You've Got M@li UC! 6 (0870-603 4567): Antz (PG): A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15); The Land Girls (12): Lit-) THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit, St Martin's tle Voice (15); Madeline (U): The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare in Love (15); Stepmom (12); This Year's Love (18); You've Got M@il West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) • Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm, [3] 2,45pm, [7] 5.00pm, £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

## THEATRE

Ticket availability details are for to-day; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. - Seats at all prices ) — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Mattnees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

) ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Fe-licity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Pict Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 6 Mar, £19,50-£27,50, £12,50-£17,50 (restricted views). 130 mins.

DAMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins.

ANNIE Rags to riches story of the

optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/O Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, ends 28 Feb, £12.50-£32.50. 165

DART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's com-edy about art and friendship. Wyn-cham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867 1111) & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8.00pm, [4] 3.00pm, [7][1] 5.00pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road. W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2 30pm, 618.50-£35, 150 mirs.

2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins. • BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama about twins who are separated at hirth. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733)

Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat
7.45pm, [5] 3.00pm, [7] 4.00pm,
£11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

▶ BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WCZ (0171-930 8800) ↔ Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8.00pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5.00pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £10-£30, half price Friday matinees. 160 mins.

▶ CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3.00pm, £10.50-£35. 165

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-way musical Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins.

• THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Grcus, WI (0171-369 1747) & Picc Grc. Wed-Sat 8.00pm, [5] 3.00pm, [7] 5.00pm, [1] 4.00pm, £10-£25, 120

DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sexes. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45p £25, concs available.

• DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets, London Apollo Ham-mersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) ⊕ Hammersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £12.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

 GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film about life in an American high school Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.00pm, £10-£32.50. 150

 AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shafresbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £7.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

 AM INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick ton of 3B Priestley's timile: Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) 

Deic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm. [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5.00pm, £12-£29.50. 110 mins.

 KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Ben-nett's comedy about the moribunt writer Piccadilly Denman Street, WI (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In rep. tonight 8pm, ends Feb 26, £12-£30.

LIFT OFF Issues of race are explored in Roy Williams's new piece.
Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 9pm. ends 13 Mar. £10, concs

.) LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EUNUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Haliwell's drama. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) & Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5][7] 3pm. ends 13 Mar. £7-£27.50.

ly Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 0171-344 4444) Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 June, £10.50-

I THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral, Vaudeville Strand. WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5][7] 3pm, £8-£27.50.

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterniece, Palace Shaftesbury Avenue WI (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm. £7-£35. 195 mins.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modam Butter fly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal. Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-

 OKLAHOMAI Maureen Lipman eters in the National's acclaimed prostars in the National's accisimed duction of Rodgers and Ham stein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street, WCZ (0870-606 3446/cc 606 6446) & Charing X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 June, £10-£35.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3.00pm, £10-£35, 150 mlns.

▶ RENT Musical inspired by La Bo-heme and set in modern day New York Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) ⊕ Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50. 160

RICHARD III Robert Lindsay stars

as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-ment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

● LYTTELTON: Becrayal Pinter's defining work depicts a menage a trois and stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 7 Apr. 90 mins. ● COTTESLOE: Guiding Star Jonathan Harvey's new play gives a tender account of the life of Hills-borough disaster survivor. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 5 Apr. 150

NT2000: Murder in The Cathedral Eliot's poetic drama. Feb 26, 6pm. Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. NT2000: £4, concs £3. Day seats from 10am. South Bank. SE1 (0171-452 3000). BR/+ Wa

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY ') THE BARBICAN: The Tempest Adrian Noble directs Shakespeare's 7,15pm, 165 mins.

● THE PIT: Shadows: Riders To The Sea & The Shadow of The Glen & Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep. conight 7.15pm, ends 27 Mar. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891). BR/O Barbi-

● YOUNG VIC: Talk Of The City Stephen Poliakoff's look at censorship in the early days of the BBC. In rep, tonight 7.15pm. £14-£20. The Cut. SE1 (0171-928 6363) ⊕/BR:

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

SHOCKHEADED PETER Brilliant junk opera, featuring the Tiger Lil-lies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) Hammer smith, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr, £5-£18. • AMERICAN IMPORTS:

SPLASH HATCH ON THE E GO-ING DOWN Upbeat depiction of a black community as part of the American Imports season. Dorsnar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) @ Covent Garden. Tonight 8pm, £8-£15, mats £8. ) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3.00pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mlns. D TOAST Richard Wilson directs

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

Richard Bean's new drama set in a Hull bakery. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WCZ (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, [7] 4pm, ends 6 Mar, £10, cones £5.

● VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her do trodden family. Albery St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-369 1730) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

O THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels, Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic So/Charles Y Mos-Sat 7 30pp, 141(7) ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25. 90 mins.

• WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Bernstein's classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5987) & Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mlns.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428) → Hol-born Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK SUsan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238) ← Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins,

**THEATRE** BEYOND THE WEST END

**ALMEIDA THEATRE Via Dolorosa** David Hare's acclaimed monologue returns briefly before a New York run. 24-26 Feb. 7.30pm, 27 Feb, 6pm & 9pm. £9.50-£19.50. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel.

ARTS THEATRE Howard Crabtree's When Pigs Fly Gay musical comedy poking fun at American cul-ture. Tue-Fri 8pm, Sat 6pm & 8.30pm, Sun 6pm, ends 3 Apr. £20-£25 concs £15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334) &

> THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

ABERGAVENN BOROUGH THEATRE Electra Kenneth McLeish's haunting and poet-ic translation of Sophocles' story of torrid family conflict. Tonight 7.30pm. E7.50, concs E5 Cross

WILDE THEATRE Hushabye Mountain Jonathan Harvey's new play with the twin setting of Heaven and Earth, 24-27 Feb. 8pm. £9-£10. concs £8 South Hill Park (01344-

#### the boys take with their follow-up, Beaucoup Fish, which The Astoria, London WC2 (0171-434 0403) 10 Mar

THEATRE ROYAL Sleuth Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney star in Anthony Shaffer's ingenious and inventive thriller. 26&27 Feb. 7.45pm. BATH £7.50-£15.50, concs available Bond Street (01273-328488) GARDNER ARTS CENTRE A Clock work Orange Disturbing and provocative adapation of Anthony urgess's novel, 23-27 Feb, 7.45pm.

MOVING FROM one controversial production to another

Charles Dance (right), last seen in Hilory and Jackie:

is now to play a professor of literature in 1930s Nazi

Germany. CP Taylor's musical comedy, Good, attempts

to highlight the plight of the individual within a mass

movement. It depicts the consumption of the professor's

principles by Nazi policies, and his gradual descent into

the throes of fascism. With a strong supporting cast,

Donmar Warehouse, London WC2 (0171-369-1732)

JUST A few tickets remain for this gig by the superstars

of dance music, Underworld. Since their debut album,

the snappily titled dubnobasswithmyheadman, the

techno duo have helped push UK dance music into the

mainstream and spawned many imitators. However,

their follow-up album moved away from the crossover

tunes that had given them their biggest hit, "Born

Slippy", and it will be interesting to see what direction

including Emilia Fox and Ian Gelder.

£10-£12, concs available University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Playboy Playboy explores our fear of loneliness, the seductive will of the control of ductive pull of violence and the act of storytelling as strategy for survival. Tonight 8pm. £7, concs £4 Narrow

CHIPPING NORTON CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE What Maisle Knew Adaptation of Henry James's novel about an 1880's tug-of-love battle. Tonight 8pm. E8.75, concs £7 Spring Street (01608-642350)

BRISTOL

First Call

to 22 May

is due out in March.

ORCHARD THEATRE The Rocky Horror Show Twenty-fifth anniver-sary tour of the classic rock n'roll musical Today 5.45pm & 8.45pm. £14.50-£22.50, concs available Home Gardens (01322-220000)

EYE THEATRE Affairs in a Tent Ay-ckbourn romp involving an alcoholic headmaster, his neurotic wife, their cleaner and a randy caretaker. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4pm, ends 27 Feb. £5.95-£10.95, concs available Broad Street (01379-870519)

GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Loot Michael Elphick and Letitia Dean star in Joe Orton's black comedy Tonight 8pm, ends 27 Feb. £10.00-£20.50 Milibrook (01483-440000)

THEATRE ROYAL Amy Johnson Drama about the pioneering female viator. Tonight 7.45pm. £7, concs £6 Addington Street (01843-293877)

WATERMILL THEATRE More Talking Heads Janet Brown, Patricia England and Sophie Lawrence bring Alan Bennett's superb monologue to life. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. £6-

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The Gin PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The Gin Game Frith Banbury directs Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this sensitive and fumy drama which cen-tres around a lengthy game of Gin Rummy, Tonight Spm, ends 27 Feb. £8-£19.50 Beaumont Street (01865-798600)

PEGASUS THEATRE Paradise A viresponsible to the state of the

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE The Birthday Party Husband and wife team Timothy West and Prunella Scales in Pinter's modern classic. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, mat Thur 2.30pm, ends 6 Mar, E8-

NUTFRELD THEATRE Earth and Sk Thriller about a librarian who thinks she knows her boyfriend well - unti there is a murder and his murky past is revealed. Sam Janus stars. Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Feb. £5.95-£12.50, concs avallable

SORDON CRAIG THEATRE AND gall's Party Steven Pinder (Brook-side's Mex Farnham) stars in Mike Leigh's comedy about social niceties in 1970s suburbia. 23-27 Feb. 7.45pm. E7-E13.50. concs available

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE The Dispute Marivaux's quasi-scientific drama directed by Neil Bartlett. Mon-Fr 7.30pm, Sat 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 20 Mar. £10-£19, concs available.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of ob-sessive jealousy directed by Gregory Doran. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 4 Mar. £7-£30 Waterside (01789-295623)

GRAND THEATRE A Kiss on the Bottom Frank Vickery's comedy set in a female hospital ward. 26&27 Feb, 7.30pm. £6.50-£9.50, concs available Singleton Street (01792-

TALIESIN ARTS CENTRE Macbeth Volcano Theatre's physical produc-tion of Shakespeare's dark and tragic love story. Tonight, phone for details. Singleton Park (01792-2968831 WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA PALACE THEATRE CENTRE The PALACE THEATRE CENTRE THE Complete Works of William Shake-speare (Abridged) Reduced Shake-speare Company fast-forwards through 37 plays. 266/27 Feb. 8pm. E8.50-£15 London Road (01702-

**EXHIBITIONS** 

MUSEUM OF COSTUME Primitive Streak: Helen Storey and Dr Kate Storey Collaboration between a fashion designer and a biologist. Mon-Sun 10am-5pm. ends 11 Apr. £3.90, concs £3.50, child £2.90, group concs. Assembly Rooms. Bennett Street (01225-477789).

ARNOL-FINI Accelerator Work by an international group of contempo-rary artists, including Hilary Lloyd, Also Sasso and Suzy Spence, Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Matisse Prints, drawings, a ceramics from the museum's collection. Ends 11 Apr.

Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Early etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenwints. Ends 7 or use east coast, minographs, leuts and screenprints. Ends 2 5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 20 Jun. free. Trumpington Street (01223-

COLCHESTER UNIVERSITY GALLERY, SQUARE FIVE, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX The Disparates: Goya Late satirical etchings by the Spanish master. Mon-Fri 12noon-5pm, Sat 2pm-4.30pm, ends 13 Mar. Free. Wiver-

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa by Africa: A Photographic View More than 200 images from sub-Sa-

Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5, concs £3, from Mon-Fri £3 after 5pm. Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 4141) & Bar-DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Years

of a Design Icon Minis designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth. Mon-Sun 11.30am-6pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames SE1 0171-378 6055) + Tower Hill/DLR:

7 Mar. free.

7 Mar. free.
Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon & Tue. Thur-Sun 10am-lopm. Wed 10am-lopm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed £4 7pm-10pm. Trafalgar Square WC2 (0171-747 2885) & Charing Cross. Leicester Square

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Mon et in the 20th Century Eighty paint-ings made in the 26 years after 1900, Mon-Thur, Sun 9arn-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadil-ly WI (0171-413 1717) ⊕ Green Park/Piccadillo, Circus

TATE GALLERY in Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletta, Stubbs and Hol-bein. Ends 28 Feb. Art Now 17: Thomas Demand's Tunnel Looped film of travel in a tun-nel explores urban life. Ends 25 Apr.

NORWICH NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice

GLYNN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Ventor Through Canaletto's Eyes Twenty-three paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Tue-Sun 10am-Spm. ends 14 Mar. free. Alexandra Road (01792-651738/655006) CLASSICAL

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

WIGMORE HALL Angelika Kirchshlager The mezzo soprano airs songs by Dvorak and Brahms. Tonight 7.30pm. £13 & £17. Wigmore Street. W1 (0171-935 2141) Bond Street.

May.
Rembrandt and the Passion The museum's outstanding collection of prints. Opens 23 Feb, Tue-Sat 10am-

hoe Park (01206-873260)

Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror More than 300 works explore the Spanish master's relationship with photography Mon. Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm,

HAYWARD GALLERY Patrick Caulfield More than 50 colourful paintings by the leading British artist. Mon. Thur-Sun 10am-6pm. Tue & Wed 10am-8pm, ends 11 Apr. £6, concs £4, family £12. Belvedere Road 5E1 (0171-960 4242) BR/&

of Fra Angelico: Zanobl Strozzi Study exhibition exploring the paint-ings of the 15th-century artist. Ends

Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Bacon Paintings and draw-ings previously kept secret. Mon-Sun 10am-5.40pm. ends 2 May, free. Millbank SW1 (0171-887 8000) ©

NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50

- Working People: Sebastiao Salgado Internationally acclaimed photographer portrays the harsh reality
of Indian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm,
Sat 11am-4pm, ends 8 Apr. free.
Reeves Yard, St Benedict's Street
(1) 602-603571

nd ceramics from the sec ond half of the century, Ends 11 Apr. Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St. Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE Geoffrey Saba/Jeremy Brown Piano du-os by Rachmaninov and Ravel. Tonight 7.30pm. E6-E15. Smith Square, SW1

**PURCELL ROOM Martin Jones** Bare performance of Albeniz's com-plete piano work Iberio. Tonight 7.30pm. £5.50-£11. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo.

**OPERA** 

LONDON COLISEUM Parsifal English National Opera with a new stag ing of Wagner's final work. Tonight 5pm. £8-£60. St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) + Leicester Square. ROYAL ALBERT HALL Tosca In-theround staging of Puccini's opera di-rected by David Freeman. Tonight

High Street Kensington. **DANCE** 

7.30pm, £13.50-£39.50. Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) &

LONDON SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-COCK THEATRE Paco Peña Fla-menco Presents La Musa Gitana World class flamenco dance, song and guitar. Tue-Sat 8pm, mat Sat, Sun 3om. ends 7 Mar. £7.50-£35. Porrugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222)

PLACE THEATRE Charles Linehan: Triple Bill Charles Lineham presents a revival of The Secret. Tonight 8pm. (0171-387 0031) & Euston.

SADLER'S WELLS Padfic Northwest SALLER'S WELLS Fatur, war unrea-Ballet: A Midsummer Night's Dream British debut of George Balanchine's ballet performed by one of America's foremost companies. Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50-£32.50. Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-863 8000) @ Angel.

LITERATURE

ROY HATTERSLEY - BUSTER'S DI-ARIES The former politician reads from his latest tome. Tonight 7pm, £7,

SATION WITH JANET STREET-PORTER Street-Purter grills Greer on The Whole Woman, a follow-up to The Female Cunuch. Assembly Rooms -Bath Literature Festival 1999 Bennett Street (01225-463362) Tonight 8.30pm-10pm, £7, concs £6.

JOHN HEGLEY AT THE CHEESE AND GRAN Benefit evening in aid of breast cancer charity PA.C. Project with comic poet John Hegley. Tonight 7.30pm, Market Vard (01373-455420)

**COMEDY** 

ALAN DAVIES IN URBAN TRAU-MA AT CORN EXCHANGE The star of Jonathan Creek Tonight 7.30pm, Wheeler Street (01223-357851)

LONDON FASCINATING AIDA - BAREFACED CHIC AT THEATRE ROYAL, HAY-MARKET Cabaret trio Dillie Keane, Adele Anderson and Issy Van Rand-wyck. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, Sat mat 4pm, ends 6 Mar, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Piccadilly Cir-

BACKYARD COMEDY CLUB John Gordilo, storytelling Irish comic Owen O'Neill, Donna McPhail, MC Lee Hurst. Tonight 8.30pm, Cambridge Heath Road, E2 0 (0171-739 3122) Bethnal Green, £10, concs £7.

**CLUBS** KARANGA AT THE PAVILION Seb Fontaine, Brandon Block and Andy Fisher Tonight 9pm-2am, North Pa-

rade Road, (01225-462565) Bath,

LONDON THE GALLERY AT TURNMELL'S Danny Rampling, Carl Clarke, Annie Mightingale and more, Tonight 10.30pm-7.30am, Clerkenwell Road, EC1 (0171-250 3409) BR/O Farringdon, £10, £8 mems before 12mid-

BLACKMARKET PRODUCERS SPE-BLACKWARDLE PROJUCETO STE-CIAL AT THE END Starring Darren Jay, Ash Attack, Ray Keith, Nicky Blackmarket, Mickey Firm and Fablo. Tonight 11pm-5am, West Central Street, WCI (0171-419 9199) e**EVENTS** 

TOWARDS A SINGLE CURRENCY First showing of the British entries from the coinage design competition for the European Single Currency. National Museum and Gallery Cathays Park (01222-573473) Tue Sun 10am-5pm, ends 6 Apr, £4.25, concs £2.50, family £9.75, under 5s free (museum entry).

LONDON THE ART WORKSHOP Drop in to the studio and try your hand at a whole range of activities, including mossics, mirrors, fabric, glass and ce-ramics. The Art Workshop Rosemont Road NW3 (0171-431 5696) O Finchley Road. Mon-Fri 9.30am 5.30pm, cost of materials.

**MUSIC** 

BRIGHTON
GENE Martin Rossiter's anthemic post-Britpop outfit tour to coincide with the release of their new album. Revelations. Brighton Centre Kings Road (0870-900 9100) Tonight 8.30pm, £8.50.

**ASTRID** Pure pop from the Scottish prospects. Hanover Centre Southover Street (01273-694873) Tonight 10pm, £3.50, £3 before

CARDIFF SUZI QUATRO, ALVIN STARDUST, THE RUBETTES Marathon triple header 1970s nostalgia tour. St David's Hall The Hayes (01222-878444) Tonight 7.30pm, phone for

LONDON

RL BURNSIDE, CHA CHA COHEN Tough-talking blues guitarist, as championed by the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818/cc

NICK HARPER Hugely talented singer-songwriter son of the leg-endary Roy. 12 Bar Club Denmark

Place WC2 (0171-916 6989) ⊕ Tot-

0171-344 0044) @/BR: Highbury & Islington. Tonight 7.30pm, £7. MARIANNE HYATT, JACKIE CLUNE, GAVIN TURK AND THE DUB PIS-TOLS, SPARIGE The singer from US stars Dragstripper; playing a rare so-lo show to top this strong bill. KA Theatre The Mail SW1 (0171-930 3647/cc 0171-930 3647) & Char-

ing Cross. Tonight 8pm, £8, concs £6. ROBBIE WILLIAMS. THE DIVINE COMEDY, THE SUPERNATURALS Major tour for the reinvented enertainer's Tom Jones stage-show and ironic Bond-isms. Wembley Arena Empire Way, Wembley (0181-902 0902) 

Wembley Park. Tonight 7.30pm, £19.50.

THE CREATURES Sioursie and Budgie return with their re-activated Banshees side project as heard on the recent album, Anima Animas. Salisbury Arts Centre Bedwin Street (01722-321744) Tonight

**MUSIC** JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

SAMARA Finte and alto-playing 606 proprietor Steve Rubie leads his steamy Latin-jazz sextet. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) & Fulham Broadway/Earls Court. Tonight 10pm, £5.45.

RAY GASKINS Charismatic, high-pressure soul-jezz saxist of Roy Ay-ers and Fishbelly Black fame. Blackheath Halls Lee Road SE3 (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath. Tonight 8.30pm, £10, concs £7.50. THE BLACKBYRDS 1970s rare groove outfit formed by trumpet great Donald Byrd, Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) e Camden Town, Tonight 9pm, £16, adv £13.50 (Fri-Sat £18, adv £15).

MARLENE VERPLANCK Masterful cabaret singer and session great. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SWI (0171-235 5273) 

Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm £18 art £16. 11.15pm, £18, adv £16. FLORA PURIM/AIRTO MOREIRA FLORA PURIM/AIRTO MOREIRA, TOM CAWLEY/RUTH HAMMOND Brazilian world fusion veterans, support from latest young award winners. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street WI (0171-439 0747) © Leicester Square. Young 100 pm. £15, mems £4 (Mon-Thu); £20, mems £8 (Fri-Sat).

TINA MAY/NIKKI ILES Fast-moving singer with a strong behop sensibility. The Space West Perry Road E14 (0171-515 7799) DLR; Mudchute, ionight 8pm, £5. concs £3.

FRANCIS RWAMA QUARTET Sparking mainstream planist from Uganda features tenorist Robert Fowler Pizza Express Earl Street (01622-683548) Tonight 8.15pm, £12.50.

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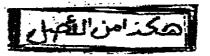
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## FRIDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM ) 6.30 Scott Mills, 9.00 Simon Hayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley, 2.00 Fark Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 3.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 11,00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio and

Grooverider. 4-00 - 7-00 Clive Warren. RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM ) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake

Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 John Inverdale. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Des Lynam. 7.00 Morley at the Musicals. 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night: Introduced by Brian Kay from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. Robin Stapleton conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra, with guest artists Lydia Griffiths, Michael Dore and guitarist Graham Atha. At 8.15, during the interval, Richard Baker introduces music on disc from the BBC Singers. 9.15 John le Carre's Single and Single. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley. 11.45 The People's Psalms. 12.00 Lynn Parsons.

4.00 - 6.00 Lata Sharma. RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM ) **6.00** On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Copland.

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1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. John Toll presents one of Britain's leading young Baroque groups. Palladian Ensemble. Marco Uccellini: Sonata sopra 'La bergamasca'. Dario Castello: Sonata No 12 in A minor. Jean-Fery Rebel: Les caracteres de la danse. Francesco Corbetta: Sulte in C. Nicola Mattels: Suite of Ayrs (R) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Machine.

5.00 In Tune. 7.25 Performance on 3. Live from the Royal Concert Hall, continuing a week-long concert series from Glasgow which focuses on the influence of non-western sounds on the European and American classical tradition. Judith Weir's 'A

**6.00** The Stone Boy (1984) (11775). **8.00** Bogus (1996) (55862). **10.00** The Boy

from Mercury (1996) (90862). 12.00 Mer-lin's Shop of Mystical Wonders (1995)

(31133). **4.00** Bogus (1996) (1161). **6.00** 

The Boy from Mercury (1998) (51997). 8.00 Addicted to Love (1997) (56442).

10.00 Fled (1996) (757510). 11.40 The Crucible (1996) (89710268). 1.45 Frankle

Empire Records (1995) (68690621).

7:10 The Way to Dusty Death (1995)

SKY MOVIEMAX

SKY CINEMA

and Johnny (1991) (352440), 3.45 - 6.00

(46464268), 9.40 Fornotten City of Planet

of the Apes (1974) (23726152). #LOO Sucl-

(1996) (75881). 7.00 Preview (3442). 7.30

(9862) 8.30 Movie Magic (8997) 9.00 Plorny and Michelets High School Reunion (1997) (15303201). See Pick of the Day.

10.45 Beautiful Girls (1996) (85098539). 12.40 Promised Land (1988) (838195).

2.25 Keys to Tulsa (1997) (690824). 4.20 -

7.00 The Last Best Year (1990) (93221992).

4.00 The Big Clock (1948) (7191713). 6.00

Blood on the Moon (1948) (1553133). 8.00

Sullivan's Travels (1941) (1565978). 10.00 The Pink Panther Strikes Again (1976)

(8525539), 11.45 Tony Rome (1967) (7850249), 1.35 Quirnet (1979) (7328517). 3.35-5.45 The Hustler (1961) (16617718).

(8946930), **8.00** Beautiful Thing (1996) (9172201), **9.30** Trevor (7088336). **10.00** 

Freaks (1932) (4662027). **1.05** Tokyo Fist (1995) (7022195). **2.30** Point Break (1991)

45159814) 4.35 - 6.00 Boudu Saved

from Drowning (1932) (8380640).

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures

(3084881). 4.30 Walker's World (3080065). 5.00 Wheel Nuts (4147539)

5.30 Treasure Humters (3071317). 6.00

Wild (8806978). 7.30 The Elegant Solu-

tion (308)794), 8,00 Outback Adventures

(4115930), 9.00 Miami Swat (6793997). 10.00 Birth of a Salesman (6796084).

11.00 Kings of the Rig (9261220). 12.00 Inside the Glasshouse (6792282). 1.00

4136423), 8.30 Uncharted Africa

Wildlife SOS (306)930), 6.30 Ways of the

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Trench Klss (1995) (4524046). 12.00

6.00 Short Attention Span Cinema

LIK Top Ten (6881). 8.00 Action Heroes

denly (1996) (28510). **1.00** The Way to Dusty Death (1995) (48572), 3.00 The Last Best Year (1990) (52046), 5.00 Suddenly

#### PICK OF THE DAY

GERI HALLIWELL (right), Spice showdown in 1810 between Tom Girl-turned-UN ambassador, Molineaux, an ex-slave and drops into Woman's Hour (10am R4) to talk about her Comic Relief mission to Uganda where, aptly, she almost sank without a trace in Victoria Nile rapids.

Walker, relates with gently

ribbing humour, a shameful

episode: the bare-knuckle

Night at the Chinese Opera' is a

and exotic sounds. It is set in the

trigues and betrayals. Timothy Robinson (tenor), Michael Chance

(countertenor). Michael George

(bass), Scottish CO/Andrew Par-

9.15 Postscript, Alain de Botton

looks to some of the great thinkers

everyday ills. 5: The milk has gone

of the past in the hope of finding

philosophical cures for some

off, the car has been clamped.

and tax forms are overdue, but

in search of advice for the faint-

Alain de Botton opens Nietzsche

9.35 Telemann. Concerto No 1 in

10.00 Paragon Ensemble. Steve

G (Paris Quartets). Wilbert

Hazelzet (flute). Trio Sonneria.

Reich's minimalist masteroiece

'Drumming' is performed by the

Paragon Ensemble as part of this

week's Glasgow festival exploring

the impact of non-western cultures

on 20th-century European and

12.00 Composer of the Week:

American music.

Dvorak, (R)

RADIQ 4

6.00 Today.

Pick of the Day.

11.30 Jazz Century.

(924-94.6MHz FM )

fast-moving opera full of colour

and earthquakes as well as in-

champion, and Tom Cribb, upon whom England's "pride" rested. The Friday Play: Cribb and the Black (9pm RA) by Steve

Not the Short One at the Back with the Glasses (11.30pm RAFM) ponders the net result of not being picked for games. A tendency to listen to radio on Friday nights, perhaps. DOMINIC CAVENDISH

boxing's then reigning world

11.00 NEWS; Stephen Fry in Ugandan Discussions. 11.30 Sunny Side Up. time of Kublai Khan, a time of wars 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Puzzle Panel. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Lark Rise and Beyond.

3.00 NEWS; Changing Places 3.30 Me and My Sidecar. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 NEWS; Writers' Masterclass. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Sunday Format.

7.00 NEWS: The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the live arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern. An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. With Lesley Carvello, Terry Molloy and Rachel Atkins. Director Peter Leslie Wild (10/30). 8.00 NEWS; Any Questions?. Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Sandwich, Kent, by panellists including Val Evans of the Women's

8.45 Letter from America. Alistair Cooke with another slice of Ameri-

Howard MP; and Gerald Kaufman

National Commission; Michael

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. 9.00 NEWS; The Friday Play: Cribb and the Black. By Steve Walker. The story of the greatest bare-knuckle boxing match of the 9.00 NEWS; Desert Island Discs. 19th century and of its protago-9.45 Serial: The Spirit Wrestlers. nists - Tom Cribb, champion of 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. See England, and Tom Molineaux, a slave who wins his freedom with

his fists and sets about concuering the world. With Shaun Parkes, Pat Roach and Burt Caesar. Director Gordon House. McLeod and Dawn McCormack Written and directed by Jeremy Weller. See Pick

of the Day. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Post Captain. Patrick Malahide reads Patrick O'Brien's novel of life and adventure in Nelson's Royal Navy. The Spanish treasure ships (10/10). 11.00 NEWS; Late Tackle. Eleanor Oldroyd and guests discuss the week's sporting agenda.

11.30 Not the Short One at the

Back with the Glasses. See Pick of the Day. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Sam Peckinpah: 'If It Moves.. Kill 'Em'. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. **LOO** As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast.

5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather. **RADIO 4 LW** (198kHz ) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57

5.45 Prayer for the Day.

Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 6.00 Today in Parliament. **RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co.

4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Alan Green and his studio guests discuss the week's sporting issues. Plus updates and secondhalf commentary from Vicarage Road, where Watford face Swindon Town in Division One. 10.00 Late Night Live, Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including Papertalk. 10.30 Sport. 11.00 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

(100.0-101.9MHz FM ) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kellv. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert: A programme of works performed by flautists James and Jeanne Galway with the London Mozart Players, Mendelssohn: Hebrides Overture (Fingal's Cave). Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream (excerpt), Vivaldi: Flute Concerto in D (Goldfinch). Cimarosa: Concerto for two flutes Beethoven: Symphony No 2 in D. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

CLASSIC FM

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 - 6.00 Steve Power. WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW )

1.00 The World Today, 1.30 Meridian (Books). 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3-30 World Busi ness Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 The World Today. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 The World Today. 5.30 -6.00 My Century.

TALK RADIO 6.00 David Banks and Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 1.00 Anna Raebum. 3.00 OK to Talk. 5.00 The SportZone, 8.00 Jackie Mason - Live from New York. 10.00 Dave Barrett's Phone-in with the Midnight Psychic. 2.00 6.00 Mike Dickin.

native: The Brittas Empire (6332133)

Harry Enfield and Chums (2224317).

Omnibus - Space Museum (6007794).

1.40 Blake's Seven (47850992), 3.00 -

6.00 Tiny and Crew (37378355). 6.20

Johnson and Friends (83285626). 6.30

Greedysaurus and the Gang (12366713).

6.40 Tiny Tales (84713268), 6.45 Philbert

the Frog (84712539), 6.50 Polka Dot Shorts (84793404), 7.00 Practical Parent-

ing (5452404). 7.05 Professor Bubble

7.0 Shopping with Screenshop (6936175).

9.00 The Thin Blue Line (8041423), 9.40

10.20 Ruby Wax Meets., Pamela Anderson (5724626). 10.55 The Bill (2424666). 11.25 The Bill (7247133). 11.55 Dr Who

## INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

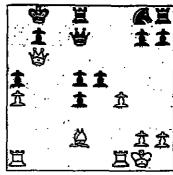
ONE OF the problems of assembling a truly world class tournament, as compared to one of mixed strength, is that all of the competitors are extremely hard to beat. So it was that after three rounds of the super grandmaster tournament at Linares and Wednesday's rest day there had been just two decisive games: Michael Adams's excellent firstround victory against Peter Leko. and Gary Kasparov's win against Vassily Ivanchuk in round two.

In the third round, on Tuesday, all four games were drawn. Not that they were remotely boring. True, Kramnik vs Ivanchuk took just 25 moves but Leko vs Topalov and Adams vs Svidler went 53 and 71 respectively. The fourth game featured a clash between the two highestrated and, it's generally agreed, best players on the planet.

Anand persisted with the Queen's Gambit Accepted with which, after a theoretical novelty; he had made an impressively easy draw against Kasparov a few weeks earlier at Wijk aan Zee.

This time, Kasparov moved the discussion on to 3 e4 (he had played 3 Nf3 in Wijk) but again Anand produced a novelty - 8 ...Qd6 instead of the previously played 8 ... Nge7. True to himself, Kasparov chose a critical response and since 13 Ne4 Bb6 14 Qb3 Na5 15 Bxe6 Nxb3 16 Bxd7+ Rxd7 17 axb3 Re7 is fairly comfortable for Black, he threw in a second pawn with 13 b4 to force

the deflection of a minor piece. 13 ... Nxb4 must be right - if 13 10 Ng5 0-0-0 .Bxb4 14 Qb3 Re8 15 Rb1 b6 16 Ne4 11 Bc4 Qd7 is very threatening; and 17 ... Kb8 is also correct for if 17 ...cxd6 18 13 b4 Nxb4 Bxd5 exd5 19 Qxb6 dxe5 20 Qa7 Ne7 14 Qb3 Nd5 21 Bd2 Ne6 22 Rfc1 Qc7 23 Bxa5!



Nxa7 24 Rxe7+ Kb8 25 Rb1! is most unpleasant.

In the diagram, Black must avoid the disastrous 21 ...e4?? 22 f5! e3 23 Be1 Ne7 24 Bg3+ Kc8 25 Qxa5 Qc6 26 Raci. At the end, Kasparov's draw offer was slightly surprising since if 29 ... Kc7 30 Rxd3 Ng8 31 Rxd5 Nxe7 32 Re5 Kd7 33 Kt2 Nc6 34 Rxe8 Kxe8 35 Bc3 White is a little better - the bishop is better than the knight - but maybe Black can try 30 ...Kc6!? intending 31 ...Ngs next

White: Gary Kasparov Black: Viswanathan Anand

Queen's Gambit Accepted 16 24 25 17 Nd6+ Kb8 2 c4 dxc4 3 e4 e5 18 Bxd5 exd5 4 Nf3 exd4 19 Bd2 exd6 20 Oxb6 dxe5 5 Bxc4 Nc6 6 D-0 Be6 21 f4 (see 7 BbS Bc5 diagram) Nf6 8 Nbd2 Qd6 22 fxe5 Ne4 9 eā Qdā 23 Bxa5 d3 24 e6 Od6 25 Oxd6+ Rxd6 12 Nxe6 fxe6 26 e7 Rf6 27 Rxf6 Nxf6 28 Rd1 Res

Love all; dealer North

29 Bb4 1,-1,-

## BRIDGE

15 Ne4 Bb6

IT IS difficult to calculate just how many different ways in which South could have made his contract of 3 no-trumps on this deal with assorted overtricks but in last vear's Marbella Festival one East-West pair managed to set declarer such a variety of problems that he ended by going off. Needless to

say, he did not score well. North opened One Heart and South responded One Spade. North rebid Two Clubs and, instead of the more natural 2 no-trumps South explored with Two Diamonds. It was not clear what he had in mind, for when his partner next bid Two Hearts, he now tried 2 notrumps. North raised to game and all passed. With a wildly unattract-

ive lead West chose the six of clubs. Declarer's choice of \$10 from dummy worked badly. East won with # J and immediately returned ♣9 into dummy's tenace, starting the attack on South's communications. After winning with #Q, declarer began on the hearts but East held off on the first round and won the second. Then he switched to \$\,\phi\$ and declarer's king won. Next came a low diamond from hand to dummy's queen and East's king and East continued his well-judged defence by returning a

North **4**65 9KQJ103 0 Q 10 **♣**A Q 10 7 East **47432 ◆**AJ8 685 **CA965** 0971 ♦K32 **₽**K865 **#**J93 ♠K Q 10 9 ♥74 **QAJ865 4**42

If South had won in hand, although the diamonds were behaving, he would have had to lead a spade from hand and so concede two tricks in the suit to East, Instead, he won in dummy with the ten and, after cashing the hearts, was left with \$\displays 6 \displays A7 on the table and  $\Phi Q10 \diamondsuit J$  in hand. Still totally in the dark as to the location of the remaining cards teven now he could still have got home by cashing \$\display\$. he made his final mistake by leading a spade. East took his ace and, after he had returned his last club, his partner had the setting trick with +K.

## SATELLITE AND CABLE

## PICK OF THE DAY

THE CAST OF Friends have playa pair of misfits who pretend Romy and Michelle's High popular movie outings for a star likeable, if lightweight, offering from David Mirkin, Lisa Kudrow broke. His extraordinary career

and Mira Sorvino (right, an Oscar-

winner for Mighty Aphrodite),

not always had the greatest to be successful so they can success when transferring from attend their high-school reunion. the small to the big screen. But However, they are soon in danger of being rumbled by an old School Reunion (9pm Sky classmate (Janeane Garofalo Moviemax) was one of the more from The Larry Sanders Show). Mikhail Gobachev the architect from the hit sitcom. In this of the reform of the Soviet Union,

was recently reported to be - who plays Phoebe in Friends - is charted in tonight's Biography (9pm History Channel).



Treasure Hunters (7730440). 1.30 Wheel

7.90 Count Duckula (87959). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (80688). 8.30 Hollywood Squares (69404). 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (86881). **10.00** The Oprah Wintrey Show (95978). **11.00** Guilty! (46882). **12.00** Jenny Jones (17539). 1.00 Med about You (79930). 1.30 Jeopardy (97775). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (73268). 3.00 Jenny Jone (45189). **4.00** Guilty! (18794). **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (4317). **6.00** America's Dumbest Criminals (8249). 6.30 Friends (2201). 7.00 The Simpsons (5046). 7.30 The Simpsons (1713), 8.00 Best the Crusher (36688), 9.00 Busted on the Job II (49152), 10.00 Cops (59539), 11.00 Friends (19423), 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (41930). 12.30 The Commish (40379). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (7151602).

SKY SPORTS 1 6.30 Futures in Sport (16997). 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3945572), 735 World Wrestling (412713), 8.15 You're on Sky Sports (2834862), 9.00 Racing News (52713), 9.30 Aerobics (63317), 10.00 Spanish Football (76881). 12.00 Aerobics (49249), **12,30** Football Review (67133), **1,00** World Sport (44268), **1,30** Futbol Mundal (56404), 2.00 What a Weekend (6930). 2.30 Fastrax (9572). 3.00 The Rugby Club (55249). 4.00 World Sport (67084), 5.00 Futbol Mundial (8210), 5.30 What a Weekend (8648). 6.00 Sports Centre (75152), 7.00 Motor Sport - Arctic Rally (92268), 8.00 Powerboating 88). 9.00 World Sport (63268). 9.30 (7605) 9.00 World Sport (5225); 8.57 Hold the Back Page (87107), 10.30 Sky Sports Centre (73625), 11.30 Hold the Back Page (90220), 12.30 Sky Sports Centre (19008), 1.30 World Wresting (40244), 3,30 Hold the Back Page (60089), 4,30 Sky Sports Centre (27973). 5,30 - 6,00 Moto-plus (75379). SKY SPORTS 2

7.00 Aerobics (4396143), 7.30 Sports Centre (6149133). 7.45 Racing News (3048539). 8.15 What a Weekend 307065). 8.45 Sports Centre (9193201). 9.00 Tight Lines (7439201), 10.00 The Rugby Club (944)292). 11.00 Golf (1456201). 3.00 Watersports (4494423). 4.00 Max Power (4473930), 5.00 Moto Cross (5706510), 6.00 Moto-plus (9769084), 6.30 Salling (9750336), 7.00 Golf (6513572), 11.00 Moto-plus 12.30 Football Watford vs Swindon (5480282). 2.00 Moto Cross (5492843) 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (4393176). 4.00 Gilletta World Sport Special (3241898). 4.30 - 6.00 Friday Night Football Watford v Swindon (7317824),

CKY SPORTS 3 11.30 Futures in Sport (17950046), 12.00 Transworld Sport (87592317). 1.00 Fish TV: Tight Lines (87501065). 2.00 Football Scrapbook (40989591). 3.30 Survival of

the Fittest (87497539). 4-00 ice Hockey Nottingham vs Manchester (73147688). 6.30 World Sport (87477775). 7.00 Friday Night Football Watford vs Swindon (23493012). 10-00 World Wrestling Federation Raw (17953133), 12.00 Close. EUROSPORT

7.30 Football (24046). 8.30 Biathlon (47201), 9.30 Sking (67639), 11.30 Sking (27084), 12.30 Luge (52201), 1.00 Racing Line (39335), 1.30 Snowboarding (51572), 2.00 Stathlon (9880688), 3.15 Tennis (99446510), 5.30 Football (13930), 7.00 Tennis (87336). 8.00 Sking (40904572). 9.45 Relly (142355). 10.00 Football (3308404), 11.15 Yoz Action (294539), 12.15 Rafly (7148485), 12.30 Close. UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (9254930). 7.30 Neighbours (4491317), 7.55 EastEnders (5513355), 8.30 The Bit (8596268), 9.00 The Bit (8570220), 9.30 When the Boat Comes In (6616797), 10.30 Rhoda (8576404), 11.00 Oalies (4569607), 11.55 Neighbours (78288930), 12.25 East-Enders (7155881). 1.00 Julist Bravo (4610846). 2.00 Dallas (5290442). 2.55 The Bit (5719959), 3.25 The Bit (9102249), 3.55 EastEnders (8371510). 4.30 Rhoda (3082423). 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (4128404), 6.00 Dynasty (8010602), 7.00 The Cornedy Almative: 2point4 Children (3630084). 7.40 The Comedy Alternative: Dad's Army (7854626). 8.20 The Comedy Alter-

18093688), 7.30 Caillou (1441268), 7.35 Bug Alert (7230201). 7.55 Practical Parenting (4776220), 8.00 Barney and Friends (4793997), 8.25 Babaloos

LIVING

(1208317), 8.30 Caliou (8579133), 8.35 Tiny and Crew (5842539). 8.50 Practical Parenting (7182978). 9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (5513881). 9.30 The Roseanne Show - Highlights (3860220). 10.00 Jerry Springer Show (5133084). 10.50 Maury Povich (7797336). 11.40 The Heat is On (68810355). 12.30 Anima Rescue (22063607). 12.40 Rescue 911 (96223046), 1.10 Special Bables (88344733). 1.40 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (66924959). 2.10 LA Law (9012133). 3.10 Living Room (2105775). 4.00 Michael Cole (816133), 4.50 Rotor-da (4548075). 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (5700510). 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (3454355). 7.05 Rescue 911 (2877171). 7.35 Animal Rescue (218046), 8.10 Mausolute Truth (1996) (1555591). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (748572), 12.00 Close.

9.00 WCW Nitro (88275997). 11.35 WCW Thunder (89028775). 1.15 Demon Seed (1977) (73882175). 3.00 Operation Crossbow (1965) (47931242). 5.00 Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Jenny (5688), 7.30 Grace under Fire (8607), 8.00 Ellen (4336), 8.30 Newsradio (6171), 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (54510), 9.30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? (85539), 10.00 Films Romantic Cornedy (1983) (45862), 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (70485). 1.00 Taxi (31889). 1.30 The Critic (45350). 2.00 Dr Ketz (31718). 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (43553). 3.00 Nightstand (11805), 3.30 Abbott & Costello (34805), 4.00 Close.

## REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N RELAND As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Newsline 6.30 (249).

As BBC1 London except: 12.30 Luch is Famh (Mouse and Mole) 2895788), 12.35 Orain agus Rannen (Song and Rhyme) (26866859), 12.40 Padralg Post (36399510), 6.00 News (897), 6.30 Reporting Scotland (249), 10.25 Friday Sportscene (30433), 10.55 Film: Private Benjamin (61930571).

As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales Today (249), 10.25 Just Up Your Street (273442), 11.00 Film: Private Ben-Street (27342), 11.00 Fam: Private Ber-lanin (482065), 12.45 Lasper Cerrott -Back to the Front (617378), 110 Film: Victor/Victoria (16941669), 3.25 Joins BBC Nams 24 (19959060). CENTRAL As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (8085591). 1.00 Wish You Were Hera.? (55336). 3.20 Central News (4859387). 5.40 Shortland Street 02788801. 5.40 News: Weather (882881).

HTV WALES As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morning (107/930), 12.15 HTV News (7693859), 1.00 Wish You Were Here..? (55336), 1.30 Home and Away (73771), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5338862), 3.20 HTV News (4958387), 5.50 A Country Practice (9776591), 6.00 Home and

As HTV Wales except: 1.00 Short-land Street (55336). 6.25 West Weather (263046). 6.30 West Tonight (317).

Haunted Fishtank (80874176), **3.35** Short Story Cinema (40713114), **4.00** Trisha (53350), **5.00** Freescreen (83911), WESTCOUNTRY

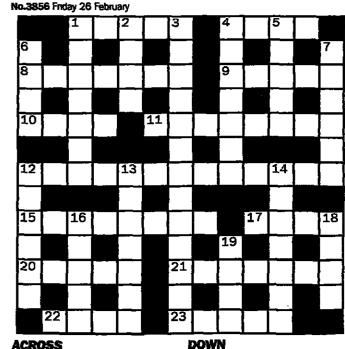
WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (107/830): 12.15 Westcountry News (7693959), 12.27 Ituminations (8093510); 1.00 Westcountry Update (55336), 3.20 Westcountry News (459367), 6.00 Westcountry News (450341), 10.45 The Other Side (331249), 11.15 Renegate (940997), 12.40 Tales from the Darkside (6541060), 12.40 Shonker Livercool Victoria Charity Chall Snooker Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (2263114) 2.40 TTV at V88 (1483843). 3.40 The Haunted Fishtank (80874176). 3.35 Short Story Cinema (40713114). 4.00 Trishe (53350). 5.00

YORKSHIRE
As Cartton except: 10.30 This Morning (1077930): 12.45 Calender News and Westher (7693959): 1.00 Home and Away (4182323): 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (454046): 2.40 Emmerdale (759336): 3.20 Calender News (4559387): 5.40 News; Weather (969442): 5.55 Calendar (372775): 6.30 Tonight (317): 10.30 Calender News and Weather (450161).

TYNE TEES TYNE TEES
AS Yorkshire except: 12.15 North
East News (7893959). 3.20 North East
News (4959387). 5.55 North East Weather (646220). 6.00 North East Tonight
(59591). 10.30 North East News (450161).

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 9.00 Ysgoion/Schools (20376404) 12.00 Home
improvement (29083976) 12.30
Sesame Street (38621065) 1.00 Planed
Plant (34887171) 1.30 Collectors' Lot
(27218249) 1.50 Film: Springfield Rifle
(62151779) 4.30 Dishes (81534268).
5.00 Planed Plant (64015959) 5.30
Countdown (81518220) 6.00 Newyddion
(54820442) 6.0 Heno (16703249) 7.00
Pobol y Cwm (64026423) 7.30 Newyddion
(64037171) 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbl
(64037171) 8.30 Y Clwb Rygbl
(6403797) 8.00 Pawb a'l Farn
(21083161) 10.00 Brookside (60725686).
10.35 Frasier (56132526), 11.05 So
Graham Norton (47371734), 11.45 TFI
Friday (32860065), 12.50 The Ru Paul
Show (26820114), 1.20 4 Later: The Mod
Squad (55751885), 2.35 4 Later: Vids
(38181485), 3.05 Film: Deadly Garne
(82357621), 5.00 Close.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD



**ACROSS** Period of rule (5)

Remove (4) Cocktail (7)

Stringed instrument (5) 10 Taunt (4) 11 Offspring (8) 12 Nacre (6-2-5)

15 Not yet adult (8) 17 Shape (4) 20 Additional (5) 21 Plain (7)

23 Risky (5)

Over yielding no runs (6) 13 Tidal river-mouth (7) 14 Expression of regret (7) 22 Watery part of milk (4) 18 Simple plant (4) 19 Roman poet (4)

Welsh snack (7)

Self-satisfied (4)

Flower (4)

Unfold (7)

Fleshly (6)

Meal (5)

Vicinity (13)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Lighters, 5 Hare (Light 28 air), 9 Feast, 10 Amiable, 11 Burglaries, 14 Aggumentative, 16 Excellence, 20 Escapee, 21 Grill, 22 Girl, 23 Stickler, DOWN: 1 Lifeboat, 2 Glad rags, 3 Total, 4 Rearrangement, 6 Albs, 7 Ever, 8 Cinema, 12 Bienniel, 13 Jeweller, 15 Mix-ups, 17 Logic, 18 Berg, 19 Scar.

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BBC1 SCOTLAND

ANGLIA ANGLIA
As Cariton except: 12.20 Angle
News and Weather (8085561), 1.00
Shortland Street (8453794), 1.35 Home
and Away (25363201), 2.00 The Jerry
Springer Show (638862), 2.20 Angle
News and Weather (458387), 5.40
News; Weather (682881), 6.00 Angle News (715), 6.30 Off the Beaten Track (317), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (4505)), 10.40 Film: Stir Crazy (9447)045), 12.40 Snooker Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (228314), 2.40 TV at v98 (1493843), 3.40 The Haunted Fishtank (80874176), 3.35 Short Story Cinema (4071314), 4.00 Trisha (53350), 5.00 Coronation Street (83911).

News (4959387), 5.30 Shortests Street (9776391), 5.46 News; Weather (58286), 6.00 Home and Away (924510), 6.25 Central News and Weather (438930), 10.30 Central News and Weather (450161), 10.40 Film: The Couch Trip (9447)046), 3.55 Jobfinder (8020282), 5.20 Asian Eye (7994992).

Away (924510). 6.25 Weles Tonight (438930). 40.30 HTV News (450341). 10.45 Firm: Twilight Zone - the Movie (725632H). 12.40 Snooker Liverpool Vic-toria Charity Challenge (228314). 2.30 ITV at V88 (1493843). 3.30 The Haunted Fishtank (9067475). 3.35 Short Story Chema (4071314). 4.00 Trisha (3350). 8.00 Competins Street (89911). 5.00 Coronation Street (83911).

MERIDIAN

Mackithan except: 10.30 This Morning (107930), 12.15 Meriden News and Weather (7693959), 1.00 Shortland Street (9453794), 1.35 Home and Away (9453794) 1.35 Home and Away (25353201) 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5338862) 3.20 Merician News and Weather (4959387) 5.30 Home and Away (5776591) 5.37 The Listings (666084) 5.40 News: Weather (622851) 6.00 Merician Tonight (59591) 10.30 Merician News and Weather (450161) 10.40 Dream Town (435012) 11.00 Film: Strays (603404) 12.40 Snooker Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge (2283114) 2.30 TrV at V98 (1493843) 3.10 The

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# 'ISION

# ROBERT

TELEVISION REVIEW HANKS

SWEARING, THEY ALL used to say at school, wa sign of a stunted imagin This is nonsense, of coupropaganda put abou propaganda put abou people who lack the imagin to swear properly. Of co any fool can swear b a f\*\*\*\*ing blue plaster. S\*\*\*!"
After the break, things turner
spectacular. Ramsay's boiling
point is, I would guess, fairly low
On this occasion, the extractor
fan falled in the kitchen, pushing

into something amazing.

The series picked him up ust after he had walked out if Aubergine, following a liispute with his partners, and feelded to go it alone, buying a restaurant called La Tante liast last. The first part of last existence in the opening hight-among other pressures, he had discovered that he had leep secretly filmed for an TV programme called Boses from Hell, and the pressure had leapt on stories of his secretly was serviced to was serviced to the pressure of the pressure of the pressure in the pressure of the pressure of the pressure of the pressure temper. This secretion was serviced to the pressure of the pres

articularly lat.

It's worth pointing out that his is consensual cruelty. Most if the staff walked out of steady obs at Aubergine in order to sarry on working with Ramsay. The assistant wine walter was unmarily sacked for "Standing in front of the f\*\*ong glass, hinking f\*\*ong water in front

nanaged it, but there are pisodes to go. Something blow: the TV, his head, agled nerves. Love it.

BBC

Subminess breakfast (14b2), 7.00 News (1) 5.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (8550997), 9.45 The Vanes (S) (T) (4959572), 10.55 News; Regional News (T) (8021336), 11.00 Change That (S) (8031713) Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (8001572), 11.5 Regional News; Weather (T) (1291959), 12.00 (Bluff (S) (21220), 12.30 Wipsout (S) (7619161). The Weather Show (S) (T) (48757423), 1.00 Ne Weather (T) (80268), 1.30 Regional News and (47479591), 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (25365046) 2.05 Ironside (R) (3412607), 2.65 Through the (R) (S) (5766997). )65046). Jgh the Keyhole

Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (6689626). 3.48 Spider (R) (S) (2542930). 3.50 Smart on the Road (S) (T) (3607930). 4.05 Rugrats (R) (S) (T) (6761626). 4.30 L & K Friday (S) (T) (6446220). 4.55 Newsround Extra (S) (T) (1885065). 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (6536201).

7.30 Top of the Pops. This week's best-selling singles, live performances and pre-chart exclusives (S) (T) (133).

ž N

News; Weather (T) (9065).

9,30 DIDICE Parkinson. Michael Parkinson meets Digna Rigg. Eddie Izzerd and Robble Coltrane. See Chat Show of the Day, below (S) (T) (744220).

10.25 IIIM Private Benjamin (Ho Goldie Hawn joins the US army in coole Hawn Joins the US army in this mildly feminist reworking of the service comedies of the 1940s and 1950s. Hawn is delightful in the lead role, but the film loses its way when our heroine gets mised up with chauvinist Prince Charming Armend Assante (11488).

12.38 IIIII Victor/Victoria (Blake Edwards 1982 US), Julie Andrews almost manages to be saxy in her husbands surprisingly furny gender-bending boudoir farce. She sters as a singer in 1930s Parls who pretends to be a man so that she can earn a crust as a female impersonator. Co-starring James Garner (Then Weather) (38303176). 12:10 Jaspar Carrott - Back to the Front. The Brummle comic goes back to his stand-up roots (S) (7845824). Joins BBC News 24 (13049973). To 7am.

2,50

DOCU-SOAP OF THE DAY

rear's Love

or mine

E • FINLEY QUAYE

THE BUILDERS (8.30pm BBC1 right) Yup, another docu-soap — and this one, as it says on the packet, is about builders. The best thing about this new series (except for some handy DIY hints, that is) is the look of unadulterated fear and suspicion on the faces of the prospective clients. It's as if years of programmes along the lines of Builders from Hell have conditioned home-owners to expect to be ripped off by anyone with a cement mixer and bum-crack jeans. John Fothergill's series follows three sets of workmen — one renovating a barn in

PARKINSON (9.30pm BBC1) The wonderful and Diana Rigg (right) should give a good account of Michael Parkinson goes over her distinguished of tonight. In town to hear the results of the Olivier has been nominated for both Phédre and Britan. Joins an above-average guest list, which also includes an above-average guest list, which also include someone else who made their name wearing lead boots and mascara - Eddie Izzard (and who also those spooky coincidences, starred in the movie

leather knee-liso, by one of vie version of nses than one, is

Neighbours. Madge finally triumphs over Portia (Neighbours script-writers are obviously frustrated Shakespeare fame). But will Karen agree to pilot Louis flying machine? (S) (T) (383242).

**3W5| Weather** (T) (997).

6.30 Regional News. And weather (T) (249).

10

7.00 Adam Wide's Fame Factory. Profile of Adam Wide — apparently a showbiz agent who specialises in discovering new talent (S) (T) (3046).

8.00 **Ground Force.** Alan Titchmarsh and chums attempt to create a teng shul garden in Torquey (S) (T) (2794).

8.30 **DIDDE The Builders.** New documentary series following three different sets of workmen. See *Docu- Soap of the Day*, below (S) (T) (1201).

9,30

10.30

BBC2

6.20 The Simpsons. Homer is stopped for drink-driving following a Duff Brewery outing (R) (S) (T) (578715).

7:15 Electric Circus (S) (T) (950355).

7.30 Country House. The villagers are enraged by rumours that the Tavistocks plan to expand mineral extraction on the estate (S) (T) (775).

Never Mind the Buzzoocks. With Frank Skinner, Leercy Thornhill of Prodigy, prog-rock legend Rick Wakeman, and Paul Godfrey of Morcheeba (S) (67510). The Young Ones. The Damned guest-star in this slice of vintage early 1980s anarchy (R) (20591).

Newenight. With Kirsty Wark (T) (760688).

11.15 Births, Marriages and Deaths. A second chance to catch the first episode of Tony Grounds' promisingly unusual drama starring Ray Winstone (S) (922591).

12.05 DIDIKE Les Quatre Cents Coups (François Truffaut 1958 Ft). Truffaut's nouvelle vague classic about a neglected 12-year-old Paristan boy. See Film the Day, below (295076).

1.40 Later with Jools Holland. Guests include Pulp and Air (Then Westherview) (3276060). To 2.45am.

CHAT SHOW OF THE

DAY

and feisty Dame it of herself when

ed career rier Awards (she *annicus*), she includes

DO Children's BBC: Heiry Jeremy (R) (S) (3717046), 7.50
Taletubbles (S) (8635688), 7.30 Snorks (6720161), 7.50
Short Change (S) (T) (6490775), 8.20 Taz-Mania (S)
(7608336), 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (3865084), 8.50
Hairy Jeremy (R) (S) (3581268), 9.00 Storytime (S)
(1730571), 9.10 See You, See Me (S) (4305881), 9.30
Numbertime (S) (1487626), 9.45 Come Outside (S)
(1485881), 10.00 Teletubbles (R) (S) (14591), 10.30
Megamaths (S) (T) (7444442), 10.50 Look and Read (S) (T) (7431978), 11.10 Landmarke (S) (T) (451305), 11.30 English File: Death of a Salesmen (S) (T) (6572), 12.00 Scene (S) (T) (29862), 12.30 Working Lunch (54048), 1.00 Johnson and Friends (R) (S) (94730713), 1.10 The Travel Hour (R) (S) (9494775).

8.00 The Simpsons. Bert falls in love with his next-door neighbour, the lovely Laura Powers (R) (S) (T) (179779).

**6.45 Robot Wars.** More thrills and spills with the home-made robots. Presented by Philippa Forrester and Craig Charles (S) (T) (637238).

8.00 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. The medical magazine examines phobic disorders, and the treatment of stress incontinence with pelvic-floor muscle exercises (4256).

8.30 Gardeners' World. Pippa Greenwood's (slightly late) guide to planting fruit tress, and Gay Search goes cottage-gardening in Buckinghamshire (S) (T) (2171).

9.00 Murder Most Horrid. Former Coronation Street actress Sarah "Raquel" Lancashire joins Dawn French in the second of these fhurder-mystery spoofs. They play two round-the-world yachtswomen (S) (T) (7607).

2.10 International Tennis: the Guardian Direct Cup. The quarter-final matches, introduced from Battersea, south London, by Sue Barker (S) (752688).

4.00 Kaye (S) (6760997). 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (T) (6763084). 4.55 Esther (S) (T) (3007065). 5.30 Today's the Day (S) (T) (626).

Days like These. Duff sitcom, set in ~ they claim – 1970s Luton. There's a royal visit this week (S) (T) (6997).

Britain's Worst Pets. The woman whose pet python ate her Jack Russell puppy, a labrador who ate his owner's life savings, and the man who was stalked by a seaguil. I'm sure I've seen that last one before, even if I'm not certain i'd categorize a seaguil as a pet (T) (9317).

News; Weather (T) (24317).

on Tonight (T) (450161).

†O,40 be the director of a TV-movie biography of the disturbed heavyweight boxer, would pour? Or, at least, there would be a strong temptation to be very nice and flattering. Uli Edel wisely doesn't go for any psychological depth as he catalogues Tyson's rise and fall, with Michael Jai White as Iron Mike, and George C Scott as the trainer who first took him on as a 14-year-old (T) (94471046).

**Snooker** (828843), **2.15** Box Office America (1697331), **2.40** Seaquest 2032 (F) (T) (3242008), **3.30** The Haunted Fishtank (F) (40714843), **3.55** Trisha (R) (S) (T) (4350486), **4.55** ITV Nightscreen (9209089), **5.30** ITN Morning News (89535), To 6am.

O GMTV (7174788).

B.25 Trisha (S) (T) (5910423). 10.30 This Morning (T) (56642688). 12.20 Your Shout (8085591). 12.30 News; Weather (T) (4/572). 1.00 London Today (T) (55336), 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (169152). 2.15 Home and Away (S) (T) (454539). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (446510).

5 **Children's ITV:** Mopatop's Shop (5109620), **3.35** Timbuctoo (3620881). **3.45** Animal Stories (R) (S) (2577626), **3.50** Gliggly Bitzl (S) (5376510). **4.10** Pump It Up (9385336), **4.48** Comin' Atcha (T) (5468171).

IO News; Weather (T) (682861). D Home and Away (S) (T) (9778591).

London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East (T) (715).

**Dream Ticket.** Melanie Sykes goes whale-watching off the East Coast of America, while Malcolm Jeffries tries kite-flying off Beachy Head (317).

Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right.
Brucle bonuses, brand-new cars and big-cash prizes
lure more couples (S) (T) (1442).

Coronation Street. Kevin takes crastic action following the custody decision. Leanne spreads ugly rumours about the corner shop (S) (T) (201).

**Airline.** Jane Boulton tries to save a family's holiday to Spain after another ticket mix-up. And Katrina comes around after her cancer treatment (7862).

10.00 Frasier. When Frasier and Niles try to dispose of a rotting dead seal found on the beach, suspicious neighbours call the police (S) (T) (22959).

10.30 So Graham Norton (T) (764404).

1110 King of the Hill (T) (428220), 11.40 TFI Friday (S) (912249), 12.45 4 Later: The RuPaul Show (T) (69398), 1.15 4 Later: Late Toon (6559718), 1.20 4 Later: The Mod Squad (14973), 2.30 Vids (27892),

Carlton

**15 ITN News Headlines** (T) (170864), **3.20** London Today (T) (4956367).

6.00 TFI Friday. The ginger one's guests are Nick Moran and Bjorn Ulvasus (ska Bjorn from Abba), Music comes from Manic Street Preschers and Skunk Anansie (S) (57133).

7.00 Channel 4 News, Weather, including headlines 7.30pm (S) (T) (221997).

7.56 Lagos Starles. The last of this week's missives from the Nigerian capital as the country prepares to return to democracy (T) (178591).

8.00 Return to the Lost Gardens of Heligan. Follow-up series about the restored Comish gardens. Growing organic vegetables poses problems for the team (S) (5404).

9.00 Friends. Monica and Rachel burn mementos of past relationships (R) (S) (T) (2775). 8.30 Brooksids. Will Greg's desire for Susannah get the better of him? Nikki is being followed — but by whom? (S) (T) (4639).

9.30 Boyz Unlimited. The over-extended boy band salke continues as the lads release a cover version of the same song on the same day as their arch rivals (S) (T) (69978).

3.00 IIIM peadly Game (Marshall Brickman 1986 US). John Lithgow stars as a nuclear scientist working on a top-secret government project. However, Lithgow's peace is disrupted when his lover's teenage son steals some material from his lab to make a home-made bomb (166602). To 4.55am

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THE FRIDAY REVIEW (
The Independent 26 February 1999

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (43591).

9.00 Chennel 4 Schools: Off Limits (4388249), 9.25 Schools at Work (8663510), 9.30 Eurekal (482794), 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (1487249), 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (6923959), 10.40 TVM (8630442), 10.25 1798 and Aller (9626249), 10.45 Enter the Maths Zone (2405626), 11.00 The Technology Programme (8762959), 11.15 Stage One (8778510),

(S) (T) (840917), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (8496305), 7.36 Winzles House (R) (3861897), 8.00 Havakezoo (R) (S) (443717), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (4438442), 9.00 Nency Lam (136978), 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (7861249), 9.30 The Opreh Winfrey Show (6507133), 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (1514628), 11.10 Lesza (S) (4923249), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (4407930), 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (9469404), 1.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (8408442), 1.30 The Roseanne Show (S) (9458775), 2.00 too Per Cent Gold (S) (58004404).

Powerhouse (3268). 12.00 Sesame Street (14930). 12.30 Bewitched (R) (T) (72442). 1.00 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (53978). 1.30 Australia Wild (R) (25352572).

1.55 IIIM Death Drums along the River (Lawrence Huntingdon 1963 UK). Richard Todd stars in this ludicrously anachronistic colonial adventure - although it was popular enough to spawn a sequel Marianne Koch plays the love interest (46078539).

Collectors' Lot (T) (423). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (S) (T) (930). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5438930). 4.85 Ricki Lake (S) (3092133). 5.30 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (794).

5.20 Sunset Beach. An angel appears to Antonio as Gabi is injured while struggling to reciaim the Medonne. Yup, more lunacy from the daytime US soap (S) (4140387).

3.30 IIIM I Love You Perfect (Harry Winer 1989 US).
Girl meets boy, and then girl discovers that she has terminal cancer. With Susan Dey and Anthony John Denison (S) (9241046).

Good Afternoon (S) (1257084).

6,00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (6861249).

6.30 Family Affairs. Yasmin goes home with a stranger (S) (T) (6845201).

7.00 5 News, including First on Five. National and International news with Kirsty Young (S) (T) (5606220)

7.30 Champions of Nature. Brute Galdikas's crusade to save the orang-utan has led to her spending the last 24 years in the jungles of Borneo. Here she is (S) (68/4/13).

8.00 Was It Good for You? Different takes on the ski resort of Aspen, Colorado (S) (5624268).

8.30 Nick's Quest. Naturalist Nick Baker takes to the waters of the western cape of South Africa (T) (5603775).

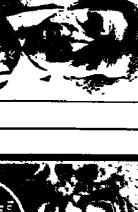
Mary McDonnell stars as an unfaithful wife who comes under suspicion of murdering her husband when she is found wandering in a confused state not far from their crashed car. With the help of an unconventional lawyer, she sets about unraveiling the sequence of events which led up to her husband's mysterious death. Your

10.40 Poltergelstr the Legacy. Derek Rayns is given an ancient Dead Sea scroil (R) (S) (T) (6457065).

11.35 FINA Indecent Behaviour II (Carlo Guslaff 1994 US). Shannon Tweed gets her kit off (S) (5832997). 3:10 IIIII Aloha, Bobby and Rose (Floyd Mutrux 1975 US). A mechanic and a car-wash attendant go on the run after getting involved in a robbery (98298089).

To 4.40am. 1.25 ITIM Strange Volces (Arthur Alian Seidelman 1987 US). A girl is diagnosed as a schizophrenic (4792824).

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT







FILM OF THE DAY

wonderfully fresh – like so many of the first features of the nauvelle vague directors – this debut by François Truffaut (right) shows a vivid affinity with adolescence that he was to sustain throughout his increasingly ropey career (some critics argue that Truffaut never managed to make a sympathetic portrait of anyone over the age of 40). Shot in a documentary realist style on the streets of Paris in 1959, it's a semi-autobiographical fule of a neglected young boy's odyssey from a troubled family life to reform school and,



TOTO SUBJECT